

May 2021 Altrusagram

Upcoming Dates



Dues must all be in by June 1st!

Wednesday, June 2nd

6:15 p.m.

Business meeting
via Zoom
Year-end reports.

Tuesday, June 8th

Ronald McDonald House
project

Wednesday, June 16th

Installation of the
2021/2022 Board -

6:15 pm

(see page 2)

Friday, June 18th

items due to newsletter
editor

Saturdays:

August 7th

August 14th

August 21st

dates to work the Altrusa
table at the BAM book drive

from the President:

In composing this month's President letter, I looked back at a President letter from a year ago. Not because I wanted to copy and paste (the thought did cross my mind), but certainly to help me get ideas for this one. I was struck by this major, common theme. **HOPE**.



Though, still with much caution, we have begun to shed some of the restrictions posed on us in fighting COVID. The availability and the speed to access of vaccines has made it possible for many of us to reconnect, (translate: HUG) with sequestered family and friends.

Altrusans have carried on:

We had the pleasure of presenting our Volunteer of the Year award to Ray Richard of Portland Wheelers. While each of the nominees put forth were deserving in their own right, Ray and his passion for bringing **HOPE** and the gift of a cycle ride to a shut-in was awe-inspiring. His nominator, Sue Wall, shared with us many beautiful photos showing all the smiling faces. Please visit them at <https://portlandwheelers.org/>

Scholarship presentations are underway to Portland area High Schools. Our ASTRA scholarship recipient is Cierra Grover, who held the position of President of the ASTRA club at Lake Region High School. Congratulations, Cierra.

Plans are coming together for a Late-June event putting **HOPE** and approximately 1200 books in the hands of Portland 1st to 5th graders. With **HOPE** and fingers crossed, our own Susan F. King wrote a grant application to Dollar General, which was approved. This, in addition to the grant money received from Altrusa International Foundation is beneficial in servicing our community outreach projects. We are grateful for your efforts, Susan. Thank you.

Save the Date: June 16. We are planning for the Installation ceremony of our new Board, and **HOPEful** that mother nature will cooperate and allow us to meet together outside. June 21 is the United Way Day of Action. In support of that, Altrusans met at the Barron Center for the annual garden cleanup effort on May 22nd.

Books-A-Million has offered us an opportunity for another summer book drive. Thank you, BAM! Susan will be looking for volunteer sign-ups for 3 Saturdays between July 25th - August 22nd.

I **HOPE** you all enjoy a safe Memorial Day, as we remember and honor all who have served and died for our great country.

Yours Truly, Debbie Lemieux



Altrusa is an international non-profit organization, making our communities better through leadership, partnership, and service.

Who We Are

The 2020 - 2021 Board

President: : Debbie Lemieux
dalemieux33@gmail.com

Vice President: Wanda Pettersen
kettlecove_6@msn.com

Secretary: Karen Valley
book1babe@gmail.com

Treasurer: Nadeen Daniels
nadeen.daniels@gmail.com

Director: Fran Breton
frb3282@hotmail.com

Director: Patricia Maxim
campnaples@fairpoint.net

Immed. Past President: Anita Chandler
achandler@maine.rr.com

Parliamentarian: Judith Reidman
jreidman@maine.rr.com

Committee Chairpersons 2020 - 2021

Communications: Co-Chairs:
Christine Johnson cejinmaine@gmail.com
Karen Valley book1babe@gmail.com

Finance: Co-Chairs:
Wanda Pettersen kettlecove_6@msn.com
Fran Jensen franjensen2911@gmail.com

Membership:
Fran Breton frb3282@hotmail.com
Patricia Maxim campnaples@fairpoint.net

Service: Co-Chairs:
Susan F. King kings@maine.rr.com
Martha Gross sfsps2005@yahoo.com

Social: Co-Chairs
Roberta Morrill rjdutton36@aol.com
Pam Szalajeski pam.szal@maine.rr.com



Altrusa International Foundation of Portland, Maine, Inc.

altrusaportland@gmail.com

PO Box 8834, Portland, ME 04104 USA

www.districtone.altrusa.org

www.altrusaportlandgivesbooks.org

We Honor Volunteers

Reading all the nominations is inspiring!!
Choosing the Volunteer of the Year among so many worthy candidates is hard!!
But the VOY subcommittee is proud to announce that

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 Walls, 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.



Ray piloting a happy wheeler.



The amazing volunteers honored in previous years:

2020 - Cathy Hendrix - Hospice of Southern Maine
2019 - Christine Arlander - Catherine Morrill Day Nursery
2018 - Dot Gonyea - Camp Sunshine
2017 - Sara Asch - Center for Grieving Children
2016 - Ann Smith - Portland Mentoring Alliance
2015 - Marilyn Goodreau - Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals
2014 - Celena Moreau - CASA, Inc.
2013 - Kim Lee - Morrison Center
2012 - Sandra Grubb - Trauma Intervention Program
2011 - Fran Seeley - PROP Foster Grandparents Program
2010 - Connie & Denis Netto - Portland Adult Education
2009 - Patsy Thompson Leavitt - Leavitt's Mill Free Health Center
2008 - Elizabeth Oatley - Tate House Museum
2007 - Rick Rosu-Myles - Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Southern Maine
2006 - The Heggeman Family - Maine Senior Games
2005 - Patricia Beville - Root Cellar

Our Service Projects



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

June 8th is your next opportunity!!! Call two friends and plan a meal. Chef salads? Italian sandwiches? YOU get to choose!!

-- Susan K



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!

Vetch...is our new swear word!!

-- Susan K



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

Committee News



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- Are you getting all the Altrusa communications?

International Association's: *The Altrusa COMPASS* and the *International Altrusan*

International Foundation's: *The Impact*

District One's: *District Service Bulletin (DSB)*

and of course, Portland's *Altrusagram!*

- Important websites to know

www.altrusa.org - click Member Login in the upper right.

login.altrusa.org - to go directly to the members area.

www.altrusastore.com - to purchase Altrusa branded items including pins and banners.

www.altrusaservice.org - to browse and share your club's service projects.

www.altrusa.org/foundation/ - to donate to the Foundation, find grant forms, see what the Foundation supports

If you've forgotten the login in and/or password for the member section of the International website, just email anyone on the Communications Committee and ask for it.

- - Marie P

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Thank you to the 5 Altrusans who gave their "Getting To Know You" talks this year: Andrea Doherty, Christine Johnson, Roberta Morrill, Nadeen Daniels, & Fran Dyro. We have a ceramic ALTRUSA coffee mug saved for each one of you. They will be at our "in person" INSTALLATION meeting of the 2021-2022 Board on Wednesday, June 16th in Karen Valley's back yard. Please attend, if you can, to receive your mug.

Our guest speaker at the next ZOOM business meeting on June 2nd will be Sarah LaBonte, a member of Portland Altrusa since 2014. Please plan to attend this last business meeting of our 2020-2021 club year to hear Sarah's "Getting To Know You" talk.

- - Trish M

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee met on April 26 at Judith Reidman's house to deliberate about fundraising projects for the next fiscal year. We focused mainly on safe, outdoor and non-contact ways to raise funds.

We shall present our first "event" at our next meeting. Thank You Judith, for again hosting our meeting in the lovely flower-surrounded Sunroom.

- - Fran J and Wanda P



Committee chairs: don't forget to have your year-end reports for the June 2nd business meeting.

ASTRA News



Ability
Service
Training
Responsibility
Achievement

ASTRA closed out this COVID restricted school year with their annual clean-up of the Kansas Road / Outdoor Field & Track trails on a Friday after school; followed by another Sunday at the Naples Museum for a final prep before the grand opening in June.

The last day of school for our Lake Region High School Seniors will be Friday, May 28th. (The remainder of SAD 61 students attend until June 18th.) The LRHS graduation ceremony will take place at 5:30p on Thursday, June 10 at the Fryeburg Fairgrounds.

Now that the last of their Community Service volunteer activities have been completed, Carinne Fournier has submitted the "ASTRA Annual Report" to Altrusa International; distributed the Graduation Cords to the Seniors; and presented the \$500 Altrusa Scholarship to ASTRA President Cierra Grover.

It's been an amazing year, considering the pandemic conditions that prevented me from ever being allowed to enter the school.


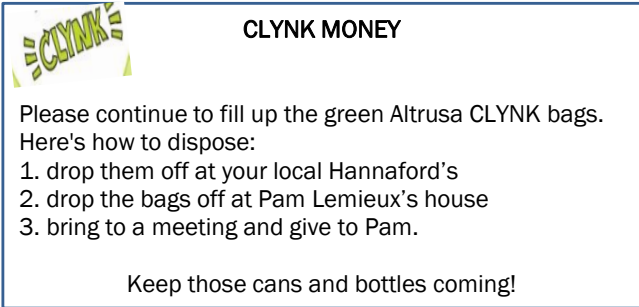
- - Trish M



Seniors with their graduation cords, left to right: Sophia Leighton, Allison Vogel, Cierra Grover, & Jack England. Sierra Grove is holding up the \$500 Altrusa scholarship check.



Other News




CLYNK MONEY

Please continue to fill up the green Altrusa CLYNK bags. Here's how to dispose:

1. drop them off at your local Hannaford's
2. drop the bags off at Pam Lemieux's house
3. bring to a meeting and give to Pam.

Keep those cans and bottles coming!





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Newsletter

Please send all newsletter items to Marie P at
 pikerino2@aol.com. The deadline is the Friday after the
 program meeting.

The Amazon Smile logo, featuring the word "amazon" in black with a yellow arrow pointing from the 'a' to the 'z', and the word "smile" in orange below it, all within a white rectangular box with an orange border.

AMAZON SMILE MONEY

If you are shopping on-line consider using Amazon Smile, with Altrusa International Foundation of Portland, Maine as your choice of nonprofit. For instructions see the November 2020 Altrusagram or contact the Finance Committee. The 0.5% of sales adds up if we all participate!

Invite your friends to do the same.

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Entering Your Service Hours

Did you enter your service hours yet? Hurry!!!!

https://docs.google.com/forms/u/0/d/e/1FAIpQLSc05lynjHKrEFy5iUIGzd0FKeHcBeT3wO1ku8H6EjMca6Ny_w/formResponse

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June Birthdays

Judith Reidman


Happy Birthday!



June Birthdays

Judith Reidman

Happy Birthday!



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Club 21

Established in 1997, the Club 21 Program is committed to supporting programs for children affected by disease and disabilities.

For \$21 per year you can be part of Club 21. Go to the Altrusa International Foundation website to donate; you can even set it up for automatic renewals so you won't forget!

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Mark your calendar for these Future District & International Events

International Convention, Racing to Success, July 28-31 in Charlotte, NC
See the "Call to International Convention" emailed on 2/17/21

District One Workshop - Saturday, November 6

- location in Portland TBD
- Portland club is hosting

- Come early for the celebration on Friday night of the start of Governor Pam's biennium and the successful conclusion of Governor Linda's biennium

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