

January 2022 Altrusagram

Upcoming Dates



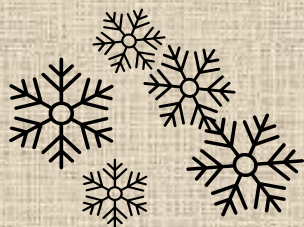
Wednesday, Feb. 2nd
Business Meeting
via Zoom
6:00 pm

Happy Valentine's Day!

Wednesday, Feb. 16th
Program meeting
Service Committee
via Zoom
6:00 pm

Friday, Feb. 18th
All newsletter articles due

Wednesday, Mar. 2nd
Business Meeting
via Zoom
6:00 pm



Think Spring!

from the President:

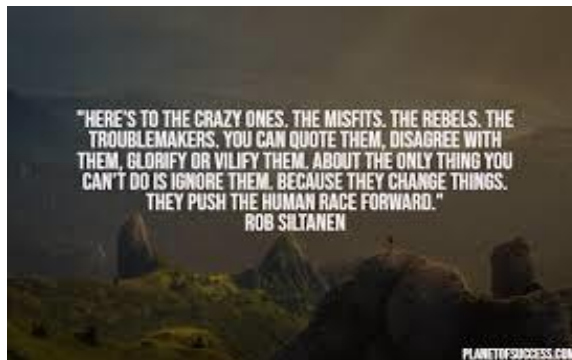
In opening, I'd like to wish each of you a very Happy and Healthy New Year! We have shared an incredible 2021. We had a wonderful Christmas party, where we were able to be with one another. We shared stories and games. As is customary, so many of you contributed to much food and merriment.



Change. **Change breeds HOPE.** We are changing to adapt to technology, science and economics.

The year has begun with our ever-popular, new and improved Calendar Raffle. The list of donations and proceeds has been impressive, surpassing last years fundraising. Thank you to everyone for all your efforts. Many thanks to the creative department of Christine J. and Pam L., colorful and eye-catching **changes**. And they continue to work tirelessly selecting and notifying the winners and publicizing the daily wins.

There is a revised book form on our website, which has generated **HOPE** for teachers and influencers of children's literacy. We have received numerous requests for books. As a result, many of you dedicated Altrusans have worked many hours at the warehouse, stickering and sorting hundreds of books for delivery to our previously established A B C recipients and to new recipients, as well.



Plans for 2022 District One Conference are in full swing. Governor Pam Lemieux and a host of others are hard at work pulling together workshop topics and presenters. There is sure to be quite a gathering of "Crazy Ones" found April 22-24 at the North Conway Grand Hotel.

I **HOPE** you all will consider attending. Stay tuned for more details in the upcoming District Service Bulletin.

Debbie

"They might not need me; but they might. I'll let my head be just in sight; a smile as small as mine might be precisely their necessity." Emily Dickinson

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

Who We Are

The 2021 - 2022 Board

President: : Debbie Lemieux
dalemieux33@gmail.com

Vice President: Wanda Pettersen
kettlecove_6@msn.com

Secretary: Karen Valley
book1babe@gmail.com

Treasurer: Fran Jensen
franjenzen2911@gmail.com

Director: Sharon Davis
sbdavis548@gmail.com

Director: Patricia Maxim
campnaples@fairpoint.net

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

Parliamentarian: Judith Reidman
judithreidman@gmail.com

Committee Chairpersons 2021 - 2022

Communications Co-Chairs:
Karen Valley *book1babe@gmail.com*
Debbie Lemieux *dalemieux33@gmail.com*

Finance Co-Chairs:
Fran Jensen *franjenzen2911@gmail.com*
Judith Reidman *judithreidman@gmail.com*

Membership Co-Chairs:
Patricia Maxim *campnaples@fairpoint.net*
Sharon Davis *sbdavis548@gmail.com*

Service Co-Chairs:
Susan F. King *kings@maine.rr.com*
Martha Gross *sfps2005@yahoo.com*

Social Co-Chairs:
Fran Breton *frb3282@hotmail.com*
Pam Szalajeski *pam.szal@maine.rr.com*

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee was elected at the January 5th business meeting. The committee consists of Anita Chandler (chair), Judith Reidman and Pam Szalejeski. They are charged with finding nominees for the open board positions for the 22/23 slate.

Positions open to nomination are: President (a two-year term), Vice President, Treasurer (a two-year position), Secretary, and one Director (a two-year position).

Nominees will be presented to the membership at the February business meeting. Voting will be at the March business meeting.

Please contact the committee if you wish to volunteer for one of these positions or have someone to suggest.



Altrusa International Foundation of Portland, Maine, Inc.
altrusaportland@gmail.com

PO Box 8834, Portland, ME 04104 USA

www.districtone.altrusa.org www.altrusaportlandgivesbooks.org

Our Service Projects

Brrr.... the warehouse is COLD on a COLD day!

But 5 Altrusans kept busy stickering, sorting and bagging books and remained warm. Ann B., Toni Irish, Christine, Nicki and Susan bagged 420 books for Windham and Lake Region! We stickered an additional 150 and shelved (or reboxed) those!! We were able to box up 110 books for a request from our Biddeford Saco sisters. Those are all books for older kids.

The ABC shelves look sparse....but with 18 bags of 20 waiting for our Portland schools and Windham and Lake Region ready to go....we are in good shape!



Wanda P delivering 12 bags of books to Primary School in Windham. Amanda Carver was so excited to receive these books.



Unfortunately we are not allowed into the Ronald McDonald House right now due to Covid concerns. But keep an eye out; we will resume our monthly Sue's Supper project as soon as we can.



other Committees' News

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Hello to all on another frosty ☁️ January day. At least the days get longer and we are adding a few seconds every day. Our "Prize Picker" Pam, has been busy drawing a winner every day from the Calendar Raffle, and has posted the daily winners on our web site.

Twenty lucky people have received prizes so far (as of this writing). Good luck to all of you for the next eleven days. As soon as we finished our "Calendar Raffle" fundraiser, we started working on our January Program Meeting project.

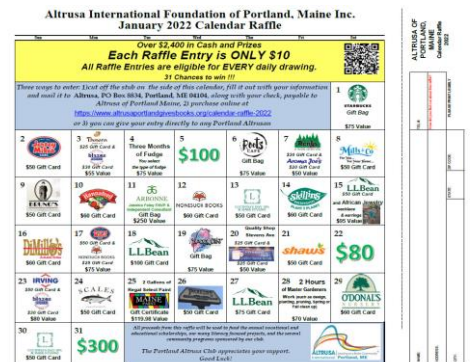
BINGO: Thanks to all of you who donated, participated and worked hard, to make this a fun night. Marie for preparing all the tickets and fun facts on them as well as emailing them out. Anita for being a patient caller and all of you for all the laughs. We surely need them these days.

We had three winners. Two in the first round, Christine J and Susan K who will each receive a check for \$38.43 and Debbie L who will receive a check for \$76.86. "Checks are in the mail" 😊

The club foundation received \$153.71 from the Bingo proceeds.

"We already have Nine hours and thirty minutes daylight ☀️
Stay Safe ! 🧐

-- Fran J



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

At the time of our Membership Drive, this committee was given 7 names of possible Guests, by 5 Sponsors. Three of those attended our Membership Drive; and three attended our Christmas party. We have met 4 of the 7 in total. So far, we have received one "Recommendation for Membership" form (detailed below for your consideration).

The Board has approved Karen Arnold as a Prospective member, sponsored by Judith Reidman & Christine Johnson. Karen also belongs to Rotary, as do Judith & Christine. Karen lives in Gorham and is an Engineer / Consultant. She belongs to "Engineers Without Borders" as well as "Big Brothers / Big Sisters". We met her at our Christmas party.

COVID & ZOOM are making our requirements for prospective new members more difficult than usual.

--Trish M

Come for the service but stay for the fellowship.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

We've been having some fun this year announcing our 2022 Calendar Raffle winners almost daily on Facebook and on our website. Using free graphics from different websites and including a picture of the calendar every few days, we've tried to make the announcements colorful. For those on Facebook, we hope you have enjoyed sharing those posts!

On the website, we've listed all of the winners with the prizes they've won. For most prizes, we've been able to include a link to the website of the business associated with the prize.

Speaking of the website, we continue to make updates to keep the content "fresh". Links have been moved or added in an attempt to streamline the site. Next up, the Home page. If you notice something that needs updating or have ideas about content to add or remove, please contact the Communications Committee..

-- Christine J



ASTRA

A
bility
Service
Training
Responsibility
Achievement



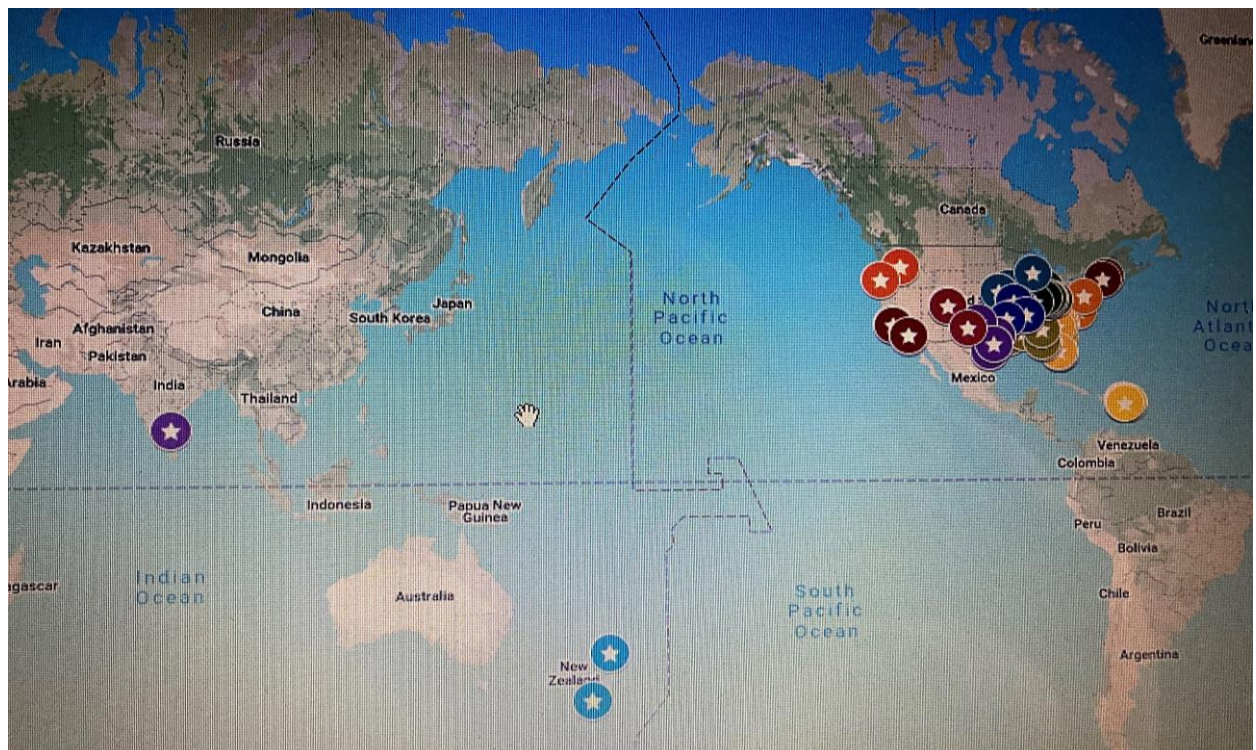
Portland Altrusa prepared 9 big bags of 'ABC' books for ASTRA to distribute to the kindergarten students at Stevens Brook Elementary school (SBES) in Bridgton & Songo Locks school (SLS) in Naples. At the moment, with the COVID/Omicron so virulent, ASTRA is not allowed into the elementary schools to read and distribute the books. Rather than just delivering the books to each school now, it has been suggested that they wait until Spring -- in hopes that the situation will improve.

That might even mean conducting the reading & presentations in an outdoor classroom setting. That could be fun!

-- Trish M



ASTRA Clubs Around the World!



Other Things



WE WANT TO KNOW: What was your favorite thing to do outdoors in winter as a kid? What is it now?

One of my favorite things to do as a kid in the winter: sometimes after school, or even after dinner, with our ice skates laces tied and hanging over our shoulders, myself, friends and brothers would walk up to the center ice skating rink. There were lights and a small family store where we could get hot chocolate.

-- Debbie L



Ice skating and sledding. Now its snowshoeing and walking.

-- Pam S



Tobogganing — staying home and having a cocktail and a nice dinner!

-- Fran B

I loved to ice skate. We lived in Worcester. Mass. and there lots of small ponds in the city which were skateable most of the winter. Our whole family would go out to a lake (where we also swam in the summer) in Wachusett and skate there on the weekends. My father was quite the show-off and could do twirls and figure 8's. It was really fun to skate on the ice covering the same areas where we went swimming in the summer.

-- Ann S

My Dad would take my sister, brother and I sliding on the wooden toboggans in a gravel pit! Mom wasn't happy about that 😊

-- Sharon D

Ice Skating. Would be the same now if it was not for my foot, leg and knee.

-- Judith R

I have always loved to shovel snow; but --

Kid: build igloo / slide down big hills like Deering Oaks or Beacon Street in Ptld.

Adult: build snow fort / sledding / x-country ski.

Old lady with 2 new hips: shovel my driveway to black after being snow blown.

-- Trish M



"Going sledding with my family at night" and then coming home for hot chocolate.

-- Fran J

As a kid, clearing the ice in front of our camp on Little Sebago so we could skate. Now, seeing how fast I can complete my errands so I can get back inside!

-- Christine J

As a kid my favorite thing to do outside in the winter was to build a snow fort in the banking at the end of the driveway. If there was a lot of snow, we would dig tunnels in the snow banking along the road to enter the fort. If it wasn't fort building snow, the next best activity was family tobogganing at Riverside Golf Course.

As an adult, I'm not so enamored with the cold these days and my 'go to' activity is to curl up 'inside' with a book and 'look' at the outside.

-- Pam L

Ski downhill as a kid and shoveling now....

-- Ann B



We loved to go skating on our friends farm pond, hot cocoa and a fire were always part of the fun! Today, it's remembering those great times!

-- Anita C