



January 2023 Altrusagram

Upcoming Dates



Wednesday, Feb 1st
Business Meeting
6:00 pm social
6:15 meeting starts
via Zoom

Wednesday, Feb 15th
Program Meeting,
6:15 pm
at St Peter's.
The speaker will be Cheryl
Gillespie, author of "Gracie
& Albert"

Friday, Feb 17th
All newsletter
articles due

Tuesday, Feb 21st
Sue's Supper at RMcD
House volunteer
opportunity

Wednesday, Mar 1st
Business Meeting
6:00 pm social
6:15 meeting starts
via Zoom

April 21st - 23rd
District One
Conference
Watch for the DSB for
details

Thursday, May 11th
Schooner Fare Concert
(see pages 2 & 4 for
details)

from the President:



Happy New Year

January, the first month of the New Year, marks a time for renewal. The resolutions we make motivate us to plan for a better year ahead than the year that just past. Many of us make resolutions. Do you have any? Mine is to reconnect with friends whom I have lost contact with.

There are many plans ahead; our nominating committee is developing the slate of officers for the upcoming New Year beginning June. Remember, for Altrusa to be successful, Altrusa needs members to be willing to step up to serve on the board. This is an excellent way to learn more about the organization and contribute to its continuing service to the community. Please contact Debbie Lemieux if you are willing to take this next step.

Many service projects are being scheduled. ABC for Portland schools, Ronald McDonald House meals, Milestone bags, our collaboration with Cricket Comforts to provide books to Barbara Bush Children's Hospital, and labeling & stickering books for inventory. The service committee will be reaching out in scheduling these activities. I hope one of these projects is on your resolution list.

The January's program meeting provided another evening of sharing, and camaraderie. Our speaker Lisa Joyce, the outreach librarian for South Portland, provided us with an abundance of information of what in-house and on-line services library's now offer. Libraries offer a non-judgemental space for children and adults providing numerous resources and connecting with other library services. Connect with your local library to understand what is available.

Hoping to see you all at our next zoom business meeting February 1st.

Wanda

*"Value everyone's contribution and treat everyone with respect."
Michelle Obama*



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

Upcoming Fundraiser...

The Board 2022 - 2023

Club President: : Wanda Pettersen
kettlecove_6@msn.com

Foundation President: Anita Chandler
achandler@maine.rr.com

Vice President: Karen Valley
book1babe@gmail.com

Secretary: Patricia Maxim
campnaples@fairpoint.net

Treasurer: Fran Jensen
franjensen2911@gmail.com

Foundation Director: Susan King
kings@maine.rr.com

Club Director: Fran Breton
frb3282@hotmail.com

Immed. Past President: Debbie Lemieux
dalemieux33@gmail.com

Parliamentarian: Judith Reidman
judithreidman@gmail.com

Committee Chairpersons 2022 - 2023

Communications Co-Chairs:
Christine Johnson cejnmaine@gmail.com
Debbie Lemieux dalemieux33@gmail.com

Finance Chair:
Fran Jensen franjensen2911@gmail.com

Membership Co-Chairs:
Patricia Maxim campnaples@fairpoint.net
Karen Valley book1babe@gmail.com

Service Co-Chairs:
Anita Chandler achandler@maine.rr.com
Martha Gross grossmartha01@gmail.com

Social Chair:
Fran Breton frb3282@hotmail.com



On May 11th

Schooner Fare Benefit Concert

to benefit the Altrusa of
Portland club's many
community service
projects

In honor of Kay Romanoff,
former president of the
Portland Altrusa club

Doors open at 6:00 pm.

Tickets are \$25 in advance and
will be available on Eventbrite;
or \$30 at the door.

"Schooner Fare is regarded as the
premier performing group of
original and traditional songs." -
*Lincoln Center for the Performing
Arts, New York City*



THE KATHARINE F. ROMANOFF MEMORIAL LIBRARY



She epitomized the special characteristics of home health care and was an inspiration to hundreds of patients, families, and co-workers. The library bearing her name will serve the needs of home care providers for many years to come. She was Katharine F. Romanoff and she was an exemplary CHS staff nurse and supervisor from 1961 to 1982.

Altrusa International Foundation of Portland, Maine, Inc.

altrusaportland@gmail.com

PO Box 8834, Portland, ME 04104 USA

<https://districtone.altrusa.org>

www.altrusaportlandgivesbooks.org

Service Projects

Ronald McDonald House meal project

RMH on Tuesday, January 17th, lead by Christine Johnson and assisted by Joanne Doherty, Andrea Doherty and Debbie Lemieux.

It was a perfect evening for Chili, cornbread and world famous coleslaw.

-- Debbie L



Christine J



Joanne D

SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

It has been a very busy time for the past few weeks with lots more to go! A team has organized the warehouse; A B C for South Portland, Westbrook and Windham have been completed; and many books have been stickered and shelved!

To participate in the International program "One Book at a Time", we will now have a log book at the warehouse to record both the number of any books distributed and the number of service hours involved in any aspect of ABC. The goal of "One Book at a Time" is to reach both one million books distributed and one million hours of service related to literacy for the 2022 - 2023 biennium.

Calling all cooks, it's time to pull out your favorite recipe. Our annual Cookie Walk will be held on Saturday 28 January at 11:30 at Books A Million to thank their incredible staff for promoting their book drives for Altrusa and the children that we serve.

Ann Smith continues to coordinate Sue's Supper at Ronald McDonald House. Please check in with her for any help with upcoming meals.

We are looking for members that could help with the making of cloth bags for the personal items for our Milestone Project, Bags of Hope. At present we only have four bags on hand. If you are able to help sew bags please let either Martha or Anita know.

Many thanks to all the members who work tirelessly to make our community better.

-- Anita C

ABC

UPCOMING DATES

Lyseth School on Thursday, February 2nd, @ 9:30.
22 students per class with 4 classrooms

Rowe School on Thursday, February 9th @10:15 and
10:45. Five classrooms.

Ocean Avenue School on Friday, February 10th
@ 9:15-10:30. Three classrooms with 17 each.

We are looking forward to sharing our love of reading
with the kindergartners at three schools.

"Life's most
persistent and
urgent question is,
what are you
doing for others?"

- DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

other Committees' News

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee has been working diligently with the Communications Committee to get the Spring Fundraiser finalized. We have "nailed down" a date of May 11th for the popular band "Schooner Fare", to give a benefit concert in memory of Kay Romanoff, Steve and Chuck Romanoff's mother. Kay was a Portland Altrusan from 1966-1987 and President 1971-1972. The concert will be held at "Keeley's Banquet Center". They will play for 2 hours. Our doors will open at 6:00 PM. Details are still being worked out and shall be communicated in the coming weeks.

Nicki secured us a speaker for our program meeting on 1/18/23. Her name is Lisa Joyce, and she is the Outreach Librarian at the South Portland Library. She spoke about all the different services her Library offers to the Public, other than just lending books, DVDs, magazines and newspapers. The Library serves also as a meeting place and work space for the Public, amongst many other things. Thank you again Nicki, for finding us this very interesting speaker, they do great community service.

Results of our Calendar Raffle shall be reported at the next business meeting.

We will start work on our next Budget during the latter part of the month.

Thank You all for your contributions.

-- Fran J

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

After Erin Deprez attended the prerequisite two meetings (November 16th Membership Drive & December 7th business meeting/Christmas party), she submitted her "Recommendation for Membership" form. She is co-sponsored by Trish Maxim & Joanne Doherty.

In accordance with our "Policies and Procedures", Erin was approved by the Board; and their recommendation was emailed to the whole membership. President Wanda Pettersen has issued an invitation of membership to Erin with instructions for paying the half-year dues & initiation fee to our Treasurer. Once received, our committee will plan her Initiation ceremony for some future program meeting.

-- Karen V & Trish M

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The communications committee has been busy this month with announcing Calendar Raffle winners on Facebook each day. Winners are also being listed on our website. We hope you have sold a winning ticket or two! Thanks to Pam Lemieux for providing the winner information to us each day. If you are on Facebook, please like and share our posts.

Next up is planning publicity for the Schooner Fare Concert to Benefit Altrusa to be held on Thursday, May 11th at Keeley's Banquet Center. An Eventbrite link has been created for use in online ordering, with a couple of tweaks still required related to payment acceptance. We expect to have the link published by February 1 and a Facebook Event created shortly thereafter. A poster for the event is under construction and we'll share that with the club when it is ready. A press release is also planned, along with posting in online boards and calendars.

Finally, as always, we thank Marie Pike for producing the Altrusagram each month. Her diligence is greatly appreciated by us all.

-- Christine J



left to right: Karen V, guest speaker Lisa Joyce, and Nicki G



Lisa Joyce addressing the group. Susan K in the audience

ASTRA

Ability
Service
Training
Responsibility
Achievement



This project, done prior to Veteran's Day, may become ASTRA's 'Service Project' entry to District One Altrusa. They wrote THANK YOU notes to Service men & women; and submitted them to an organization called "A Million Thanks" which will deliver them to the active duty military locations.

ASTRA's deadline to District One is March 1st.

(That is ASTRA Advisor Kristina Theriault facing the camera.)

- Trish Maxim

Other Things

CLYNK MONEY

Please continue to fill up the green Altrusa CLYNK bags.
Then:

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



AMAZON SMILE UPDATE!



Amazon has decided to cease the Amazon Smile program effective February 20th. They will be providing each of the charities with a one-time donation equivalent to three months of what they earned in 2022 through the program.

PROGRAM MEALS RESPONSIBILITY

Any member who will not be attending the program meeting, or who will attend but not eat a meal, is responsible for notifying the Treasurer no later than by noon of the Monday before the program meeting. A charge will be levied on anyone who does not cancel their meal. Be sure to call or email Fran Jensen to cancel your meal.
franjensen2911@gmail.com

SERVICE HOURS

Don't forget to input your Service Hours.
Copy and paste this link into your browser:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfBA5kpTP2KnohBM77MIB7qwAm953glU10L8wCWanf3Qbrtqg/viewform>

February Birthdays

Ann Babbitt

Happy Birthday!



Newsletter

The deadline for the Altrusagram articles each month is the end of day on the Friday after the program meeting. Sending things before then is fine too!
Please write complete articles and identify people in photos if not club members.

Editor Marie Pike pikerino2@aol.com

Mark your calendar for these Future District & International Events

District One Conference

April 21 - 23, 2023

Nonantum Resort in Kennebunkport, ME
hosted by the Greater Biddeford/Saco club

International Convention

July 19 - 22, 2023

San Antonio, Texas

Did you know?

In 1946, Altrusa sent its first representative to the United Nations.

UN International Days:

February 20 World Day of Social Justice

March 8 International Women's Day

April 7 World Health Day

May 15 International Day of Families

June 6 World Environment Day

August 12 International Youth Day

September 8 International Literacy Day

September 21 International Day of Peace

October 16 World Food Day

October 24 UN Day

November 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

December 10 Human Rights Day