



March 2023 Altrusagram

Upcoming Dates



Wednesday, April 5th
Business Meeting
6:00 pm social
6:15 meeting starts
via Zoom

Tuesday, April 18th
Sue's Supper at RMCD
House volunteer
opportunity

Wednesday, April 19th
Our 94th Birthday Party!
and Initiation of
Erin Deprez!
6:15 pm
at St Peter's.

Friday, April 21st
All newsletter
articles due

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

Wednesday, May 3rd
Business Meeting
6:00 pm social
6:15 meeting starts
via Zoom



Thursday, May 11th
Schooner Fare
Concert fundraiser
(see page 5)

from the President:

March usually is the transition between winter and spring. This year, as we turned our clocks ahead for daylight saving time giving us longer daylight, WHAM we got hit with a Nor'easter. As the folklore says..."in like a lion" and "out like a lamb"....hopefully..... Spring is right around the corner which means planning for our birthday celebration, new member initiation in April and our Volunteer of the Year award and Schooner Fare fundraiser events in May. We have a busy couple of months ahead.



In anticipation of the storm, we rescheduled our program meeting to March 22nd. Our sewers have been busy sewing bags for the Bags of Hope to be filled and donated to Milestone Recovery. Bags will be available at the program meeting. Our guest speaker will be Kathleen Meade, Press Herald Toy Fund volunteer.

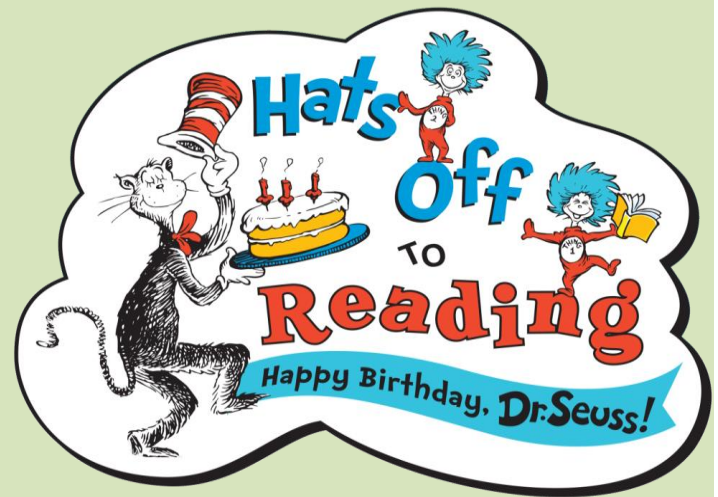
It's not too late to register for the District One Conference at the Nonantum Resort in Kennebunkport, ME. April 21st to April 23rd. See the recent DSB for the registration form and information regarding hotel information. You will not want to miss the fun! For those who have never been to a Conference – come see what it's all about. It's a great way to meet others from the District.

Congratulations to the new Board of Directors. Installation will occur in June. I am so thankful for their willingness to serve.

Thank you to our ABC program readers and "chefs" at Ronald McDonald House. You brighten the day of many.....

Altrusans together in service

Wanda



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

Who We Are...

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*

Altrusa International District One Conference 2023 "Turning Back the Tide"

Did you know there's a service opportunity at Conference?

Friday (April 21st), 3 - 5 pm
Hands-On Service Project: Newborn Assistance
Program (NAP) - A Baby Shower in a Bag



The Greater Biddeford-Saco Altrusa Club has a service project called the Newborn Assistance Program (NAP). They prepare bags that include essentials for newborns. The bags are put together, with consideration of the season. Summer bags would have short sleeved items, winter bags would have long sleeve and heavier material items and Spring and Fall bags would have a combination of short and long sleeve items. They also differentiate between girl baby bags and boy baby bags, by the difference in the clothing or in the color of the items. They avoid items with writing/ slogans / and parental designations, if possible. The bags are given to mothers of newborns deemed to be needy by the hospital nurses.

Altrusans are asked to bring donations of some items listed in the latest DSB. On Friday afternoon the Hands-On Service Project is to put labels in Baby Books, Assemble NAP Bags (from items already collected for NAP) and to sort items received that day.

Not going to Conference? Bring any donations to the April business or program meetings and someone who is attending will take them for you.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2023/2024

At the March business meeting the following were elected to serve on the Board for the 2023-2024 new year:

Club President - Wanda Pettersen
Foundation President - Pamela Lemieux-2023/2025
Vice President - Karen Valley
Secretary - Patricia Maxim
Treasurer - Fran Jensen
Club Director - Francine Breton
Foundation Director-Ann Smith-2023/2025
Parliamentarian-Judith Reidman

A BIG Thank you to these members willing to serve!!!

-- Wanda P

Altrusa International Foundation of Portland, Maine, Inc.
altrusaportland@gmail.com
PO Box 8834, Portland, ME 04104 USA <https://districtone.altrusa.org>
<https://www.portlandaltrusa.org>

Our Service Projects

On Monday, March 13th, Barb, Celeste, Melissa and Kim drove up from York to meet Susan at the warehouse. They are members of the Seacoast Altrusa club. Fran, Toni and Christine had gathered 120 books for their new Lending Library at the food cupboard. Also included were books for their backpack program. Delighted to share our bounty!!

-- Susan K



left to right:
Christine J,
Fran J, Toni
I

On Thursday March 9, Pam Lemieux, Ann Smith, Christine Johnson and Martha Gross visited the Kindergartners and shared our love of reading. Pam and Chris, the readers, did a fantastic job having the children interact with the story. They were very excited to receive their Forever Book. A joyous group of young learners.

For Portland residents especially, you should be so happy to see the renovations and addition to Presumpscot School. The new wing which houses the three kindergarten classrooms is spacious and bright and they have their own bathroom and big sink! Lovely setting for learning & teaching.

Many hours by Altrusans have also gone into stickering, shelving, and filling orders for Biddeford/Saco Club and Seacoast Club.

*The shelves are ready for BAM'S summer book drive! Special thanks to all!
-- Martha G



Altrusa of the Seacoast

ABC March 2nd at Saccarappa



The snow was falling in big, heavy flakes but, pioneers that we are, 5 Altrusans made their way to Saccarappa School on the morning of March 2nd.

We'd make prior attempts to visit the school but twice before were foiled by "no school" due to snow! Third time being the charm, we made it this time.

A few reworkings of readers resulted in Fran J., Christine, Susan, Ann S. and Karen V. attending as readers. Thank you ladies for being so flexible.

Saccarappa is a beautiful building, renovated in 2018, to serve 433 pre-K to grade 4 students. Light filled and cheerful, it seems to be a happy place!

-- Susan K

ABC

left to right: Christine J,
Susan K, Karen V, Fran J,
Ann S



other Committees' News

FINANCE COMMITTEE

These days it is "Hit or Miss". We hit a "Bullseye" in picking a day without a snowstorm ☹️ to have our very important "Budget Finance Committee Meeting" on the 16th. Thanks to all the Chairpersons who submitted their budgets in plenty of time for us to review them and discuss and evaluate your requests. Next we shall submit the whole budget summary to the Board and it will be presented to the Membership at our April Business Meeting.

A "Thank You" goes to the members of the Finance Committee for their diligence and time commitment to get this finalized. A special "Thanks" to our President, Wanda, who got back in time from her vacation to join us and help with her vast experience in budget preparation and understanding of every committee's needs. We hope we were able to fulfill every Committee's wishes.

Wishing you all a "Happy Spring" and plenty of sunshine.

-- Fran J

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

"Two Celebrations in One" - We will hold the initiation of Erin Deprez at the April "Altrusa Birthday Party" celebration on April 19, 2023, at St. Peter's Church hall where Erin will receive her Altrusa pin and name tag during the "chain of service" ceremony.

Trish Maxim submitted our budget recommendations for 2023-2024 to Fran Jensen of the Finance Committee as requested. Basically, we estimated a cut in some spending in the Operating Budget and an additional amount in the Foundation Budget in support of our ASTRA Advisor at Lake Region High School.

Altrusa International views our ASTRA youth group as the "future of Altrusa."

Borrowing from the Scottish and Irish: 🍀 Slainte is tainte!
Health and wealth in 2023!

Your Membership Committee:

Trish Maxim , Co-Chair
Karen Valley, Co-Chair
Ann Smith
Rae Clark McGrath
Erin Deprez

-- Karen V

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE



It's GO-Time for VOY. Our 19th Annual plea for Volunteer of the Year award selections has begun. Christine has been busy posting this to social media and we are working on getting this into area publications. The list

of potential recipients is expansive and Marie has emailed all organizations with the necessary materials.

There has been a change to the website address. Due to the fact that there has been an increase in cost, (What hasn't gone up in \$\$\$\$), We have had to purchase a plan that will allow us to keep our .org specification.



We also took this opportunity to simplify the address, making it easier for our viewers to reach us and in addition with this plan, we will now have a secured page on the website for sensitive information.

AND the NEW NAME is **altrusaportland.org**

Facebook has been updated to reflect this change. And, in case you have the link to the old name bookmarked(saved), or someone types in altrusaportlandgivesbooks.org, all traffic will be redirected automatically to the new name.

-- Debbie L

Altrusa Spring: sowing seeds of change
in our communities



Upcoming Fundraiser

Thursday, May 11, 2023
Keeley's Banquet Center

**Schooner
fare**



Schooner Fare has won unanimous critical praise for captivating harmonies and winning stage presence.

178 Warren
Avenue
Portland, Maine
Doors open at 6:00
Show starts at
7:00
full cash bar
available

\$25 in advance

From your favorite
Altrusan

OR

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/522117897687>

OR

\$30 at the door

Thank you for your support of Altrusa International Foundation of Portland, Maine, Inc. Your contribution helps us provide literacy services to schools and other organizations, college and vocational scholarships, aid to people re-entering the workforce, and many other service programs to the Greater Portland community.

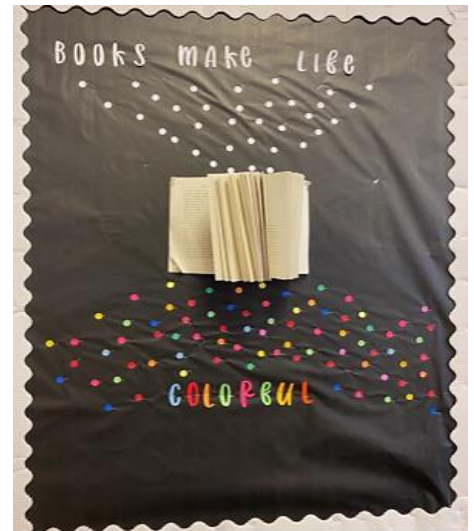
www.altrusaportlandgivesbooks.org



fundraiser for Altrusa International Foundation Inc of Portland, Maine

ASTRA

Ability
Service
Training
Responsibility
Achievement



It's been a month since our last ASTRA meeting due to school vacation week and a pile of snow storms since then. Lake Region High School finally reverted to 'Remote' days in place of 'No School' snow days to cut down on lost time. In the meantime, ASTRA president, Delaina Grover, completed the entry for their 'ASTRA Service Project': "Hat & Mitten Drive" (a change from the pre-planned "Vacation Activity Bags"). They had been working on both projects at the same time. In addition to the decorated collection box in the main lobby at LRHS, they placed decorated boxes in each of the SAD61 communities of Bridgton, Casco, & Naples. (Naples had one in the Library and another in the grocery store.) At our meeting this week, I learned that Delaina Grover & her mother plan to attend our District One Conference at the Nonantum Resort in April to accept their (assumed) 1st place award.
-- Trish Maxim



Other Things

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. franjenzen2911@gmail.com

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.



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!

Editor Marie Pike pikerino2@aol.com

April is National Volunteer Month



The International Service Committee wants to remind everyone to become a member of the Altrusa Service Facebook page. If you are having a difficult time accessing the Altrusa Service page remember to answer the question: What club are you with?

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/345182079259454/permalink/1650955308682118/?mibextid=W9rl1R>

District One Conference

Turning Back the Tide

It's not too late to register for the District One Conference at the Nonantum Resort in Kennebunkport, ME, April 21st to April 23rd.

See the recent DSB for the registration form and information regarding hotel information.

You will not want to miss the fun! For those who have never been to a Conference – come see what it's all about. It's a great way to meet others from the District.

April Birthdays

Patricia Maxim
Beth Bellemere
Jane Coolidge

Happy Birthday!



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

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>

The International Association President want us to enter literacy hours as a separate category.

Club activity reports will be due soon and the total year's hours are needed for that process.