



April 2023 Altrusagram

Upcoming Dates



Wednesday, May 3rd

Business Meeting
6:00 pm social
6:15 meeting starts
via Zoom

Thursday, May 11th

Schooner Fare
Concert fundraiser!
(see page 8)

Tuesday, May 16th

Sue's Supper at RMCD
House volunteer
opportunity

Wednesday, May 17th

Volunteer of the Year
Award Presentation!
6:00 pm social
6:15 meeting starts
at St Peter's.

Friday, May 19th

All newsletter
articles due

Wednesday, June 7th - or maybe - June 14th!

(the date will be
announced soon)
Business Meeting
and
Installation of the
2023-2024 Officers
at Karen Valley's home



from the President:

April is in bloom. How nice the sun's warmth feels and there have been a few days when we could actually open our windows to freshen the home. For me, the sun provides me with energy to clean my little garden of winter debris and to see the flowers sprout.

Our club is also blossoming. Erin May Deprez, was initiated as a new Altrusan at our 94th birthday party. Many members attended this celebration. What an awesome way to celebrate our birthday by watching our garden grow with this new friendship.



I am so proud of our club's representation at District One conference. Portland took 2nd place for conference attendees. Lake Region High School ASTRA club award was received by their President Delaina Grover. The District & the International Representative are enthusiastic with the community service this high school club provides. Portland also received a 2nd place Newsletter award for our Altrusagram. Marie Pike is definitely our editor extraordinaire. International Foundation acknowledged our club as one of the three Lamplighter Club's in District One. Altrusa Portland is growing and "Leading to Better Community."

Please plan on attending the May program meeting when the service committee will be presenting the 19th annual Volunteer of the Year Award to an outstanding non-Altrusan community volunteer.

Thank each of you for all of your contributions.

Wanda

A stanza from one of my favorite songs
by John Denver:

*Inch by inch, row by row
Gonna make this garden grow
All it takes is a rake and a hoe
And a piece of fertile ground*



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

Who We Are...

We Give Scholarships



Anita C and Martha G attended the SMCC breakfast honoring scholarship sponsors. Pictured above are SMCC President Joe Cassidy, Anita C, SMCC Foundation Executive Director Connie Goldberg, and Martha G.

Portland Altrusa has a long history of providing scholarships to students at SMCC. In addition to SMCC we provide scholarships to students at University of Maine, University of New England, and annually to graduating high school students at Deering, Portland and Casco Bay high schools and to an ASTRA graduating student at Lakes Region High School.

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*

A NOTE WE RECEIVED:

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of Southern Maine Community College students!

Our students face many challenges on their path to creating a better life for themselves, their families and our community. Your generous donation provides a critical bridge to their success.

The importance of your gift cannot be emphasized enough – quite simply, you are making a real difference in someone's life.

On behalf of the SMCC Foundation, we thank you for being on our team.

With gratitude,
Julie A. Chase
Connie Goldberg

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>

Notes from the District One Conference, pg1



DISTRICT ONE BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2023 -2025

As pictured, left to right: Linda Ring (Communications Chair), Pat Jackowski (BRR), Ann Marie Snyder (Parliamentarian), Wanda Pettersen (1st Vice Governor), Anne Rash (Foundation Liaison), Diane O'Reilly (Treasurer), Cindy Hyatt (Membership Chair), Carlita Cotton (Leadership Chair), Sue Ulino (Director), Ann Lindner (2nd Vice Governor), Karen Valley (Archives), Pam Lemieux (Immed. Past Governor), Sue Porazzo (Governor-Elect), Rita Cote (Governor), Denise Doyon (Secretary), Cathy Baybutt (DSB Editor), Penny Eldridge (Director). Not pictured: Ann Milliard (Awards Chair), Marie Pike (Service Chair).

Conference Tidbits:

Congratulations: to Pam Lemieux, former District One Governor, now Immediate Past Governor and to Wanda Pettersen, former District One Treasurer, now First Vice Governor; to Anita Chandler who presented an award, and to Trish Maxim for her participation with ASTRA at Conference. Very proud of them and their leadership skills!

Fundraising: \$80 dollars was the final bid on our Foundation Silent Auction Basket. We raised \$87 dollars on our small breakfast raffle basket and \$43 from selling Altrusa pins (provided by Anita Chandler), for a total of \$130 raised for our club fundraiser.

Networking: was informative and fun! There were 8 of us who attended from our club. Along with hanging out with our local club members who attended, I met members from other District One clubs as well as from Kansas (our International Association guests, the twin Smith sisters, who hail from Salina, Kansas). I bought some precious hand-crocheted baby items made by our district members from Quebec (who I look forward to seeing again in Quebec in 2025 at Conference) and others from MA, NH and CT.

The workshops and breakout sessions were **informative: gaining knowledge of our organization and sharing ideas** at the same time!

As a Membership Chair for one more year for our Club I'm pleased to **support her theme for Altrusa District One 2023-2025: INCREASING OUR NUMBERS, That's the Goal!**

If you've never been to a District One Conference you owe it to yourself to attend one. You'll come back feeling energized!!!
-- Karen Valley



Trish Maxim carries the ASTRA flag for the flag ceremony.



Wanda Pettersen carries the Portland banner for the Parade of Presidents.

Notes from the District One Conference, pg2



Portland club members attending Conference left to right: Fran B, Wanda P, Pam L, Joanne D, Christine J, Anita C, Karen V and Trish M

CONGRATULATIONS to the WINNERS!

Mamie L Bass Award
1st - Seacoast
2nd - Northeastern CT
3rd - Central CT

Letha H Brown Award
1st - Northeastern CT
2nd - Biddeford-Saco
3rd - Plymouth County

Nina Fay Calhoun Award
1st - Central CT
2nd - Northeastern CT

Newsletter Award
1st - Central CT
2nd - Portland
3rd - Laconia

ASTRA Award - Lake Region High School (Portland club sponsor)

Gabrielle Crepeau Award - Carole Norrish of Northeastern CT



Outgoing Governor Pam Lemieux with incoming governor Rita Cote



International Rep Linda Smith with Governor Pam Lemieux



Service Chair Anita Chandler and International Rep Linda Smith handing out awards.



The Seacoast club does the "Call to Conference" for the 2024 Conference they will be hosting.



Altrusa District One is Turning Back the Tide...

Our Service Projects



This group of Altrusans happily sending off all the Bags of Hope sewn and stuffed. The Milestone Recovery program will distribute these bags to graduates of their program.

On Saturday March 25th, Christine and Nicki helped Cricket Comforts complete 55 pillowcases at their March Into Spring work session. Most of those pillowcases will be paired with the books that we provided. All are destined for the Barbara Bush Childrens Hospital in the near future.

For folks who are interested, Cricket Comforts volunteers and friends get together one Saturday most months at the Old Robie School in Gorham. They make pillowcases and swaddles, primarily for BBCH. Since COVID, their inventory is down and they can use more folks willing to sew to get them back on track. Also fabric donations are always needed and appreciated.

-- Christine J



Anita C reading to children at Longfellow School



Nicki G at the sewing machine



left to right: Christine J and Cricket Comforts volunteer Kathy Gowen



Ronald McDonald House dinner crew, left to right: Anita C, Susan K, Ann S, Nicki G

other Committees' News

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

During the Wednesday evening of April 19th when we celebrated Portland Altrusa's 94th birthday, we also INITIATED our newest member Erin Deprez. Karen Valley and Ann Smith did an excellent job conducting the ceremony; Trish Maxim and Joanne Doherty were Erin's sponsors.

Erin is married and has three small children. She is the Librarian at Bonny Eagle High School in Standish Maine, SAD 6 which includes the towns of Buxton, Hollis, Limington, Standish and Frye Island. It is the largest school district in the state of Maine with 3500 students in 6 Elementary Schools, 1 Middle School and 1 High School. Erin is a busy young woman and we are excited to have her become an Altrusan.

-- Karen V

Trish and Joanne watch as Erin adds her link to our Chain of Service.



Initiation Ceremony, left to right: Karen V, Trish M, Erin D, Joanne D, Ann S



Trish pins Erin with the Altrusa pin..

Portland Altrusa - 94 years!



A big thank you to the Social Committee for a wonderful birthday party on April 19th, celebrating 94 years of fun, fellowship and service to our community.

Pictured left to right: Karen V, Debbie L, Andrea D, Joanne D, Wanda P, Fran B.

ASTRA

Ability
Service
Training
Responsibility
Achievement



ASTRA added Pin-wheels in ASTRA colors (same as school colors), as well as netting and deer deterrent granules to their Yellow Tulip Garden. (Last Year the deer ate all of the tulips.)



During the month of April ASTRA was very busy with several of their Community Service projects. Monday afternoon (April 10th) they read to 3 Kindergarten classes at Stevens Brook Elementary School (SBES) They spread out loads of books for the children to choose their own book to take home. They gave each teacher a big fat book of multiple stories for their classroom.

On Thursday morning (April 13th) at 7:30am ASTRA gathered at their Yellow Tulip Garden at LRHS to place some animal deterrents. Last year the deer (or skunks) ate the tulips right to the ground. ASTRA used brightly colored pinwheels in their school colors Blue and Gold. They also sprinkled deterrent granules and placed a wide mesh netting over the top. That same afternoon they completed their ABC at Songo Locks School, reading and distributing books to 5 Kindergarten classrooms. Joining them in this event was Martha Gross from the Service Committee who was a huge help.

The next day they started their Spring vacation week. Their next meeting will be April 27th at 7:30am.

-- Trish Maxim



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](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

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. franjensen2911@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

Don't forget to input your Service Hours.
Copy and paste this link into your browser:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfBA5kpTP2KnohBM77MIB7qwAm953gIU10L8wCWanf3Qbrtqg/viewform>

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

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>

May Birthdays

Katie Lamb
Martha Gross
Sarah Labonte

Happy Birthday!



Altrusa International Foundation's Spring Fundraiser "60 for 60"



To celebrate its 60th anniversary the Foundation is asking donors to make contributions in the amount of \$60, \$160, \$260, \$560, \$860 or \$1,060.

All amounts raised June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023 will count towards the club awards for most raised/most raised per capita, and for the individual commemorative ribbons for each level of giving.

to give, go to <https://foundation.altrusa.org>

Mark your calendar for these Future District & International Events

International Convention

July 19 - 22, 2023
San Antonio, Texas

District One Workshop

November 4, 2023
Nashua, NH Sheraton Hotel
hosted by the Merrimack Valley club

The International Office is moving soon!

The new address is: 1400 E. Touhy Ave, Suite 410
Des Plaines, IL 60018

All mailed correspondence to the Association or the Foundation should be going to this new address now.

