



December 2023 Altrusagram



Upcoming Dates

Until Dec. 31
Calendar Raffle Sales

Drawings begin Jan. 1



Business Meeting
Wednesday, Jan. 3
6:00 PM
Riverside Golf Course

ABC
Friday, Jan. 5
9:00 A.M.
Windham Elementary

Program Meeting
sponsored by
Finance Committee
Wednesday, Jan. 17
6:00 P.M.
Riverside Golf Course

Sue's Supper
at RMcD House
Tuesday, Jan. 19
volunteer opportunity

from the President:



By the time you read this, the winter solstice will have arrived, and the whirl of generators may still be squealing. The official start of winter is upon us. This is also the time of year for baking traditions. My baking tradition was making Sandbakkels, a traditional Norwegian almond cookie. Standing in the kitchen for hours, pressing the cookie dough into different individual shaped sandbakkel molds. My father could not get enough of these with his coffee. Do you have any baking traditions, gingerbread houses, thumb print cookies, Italian cookies? They all are yummy. Our annual Holiday party was held at "The Club" which they decorated beautifully. Members brought a gift to auction off in support of our annual donation to Wayside Food Programs. We were also introduced to three guests who are interested in becoming members of Altrusa. It was such a great night of sharing, laughter, and camaraderie. A big thank you to the Social Committee for hosting this event.

Elves have been busy delivering boxes of books from BAM's book drive to the warehouse. The service committee will be sending out a schedule for stickering, shelving opportunities, as well as reading times for local schools. Stay tuned for this heartwarming activity.

Wishing you all a happy holiday season, and peaceful, healthy New Year!

Wanda

The word from the "Altrusa Rocks" heart which defines the Portland Club is **ASTRA**.

ASTRA IS OUR HOPE FOR THE FUTURE



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

Who We Are...

The Board 2023 - 2024

Club President: : Wanda Pettersen
kettlecove_6@msn.com

Foundation President: Pam Lemieux
pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net

Vice President: Karen Valley
book1babe@gmail.com

Secretary: Patricia Maxim
campnaples@fairpoint.net

Treasurer: Fran Jensen
franjensen2911@gmail.com

Foundation Director: Ann Smith
vanillawoman2015@gmail.com

Club Director: Fran Breton
frb3282@hotmail.com

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

Parliamentarian: Judith Reidman
reidmanjudith7@gmail.com

Committee Chairpersons 2023 - 2024

Communications Co-Chairs:
Christine Johnson *cejinmaine@gmail.com*
Erin May Deprez *erinmaydeprez@gmail.com*

Finance Co-Chairs:
Fran Jensen *franjensen2911@gmail.com*
Marie Pike *pikerino2@aol.com*

Membership Co-Chairs:
Patricia Maxim *campnaples@fairpoint.net*
Katie Lamb *kwblamb@gmail.com*

Service Co-Chairs:
Pam Lemieux *pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net*
Martha Gross *grossmartha01@gmail.com*

Social Co-Chairs:
Fran Breton *frb3282@hotmail.com*
Joanne Doherty *jdoherthy193@gmail.com*

What's cooking, Good looking!

Timing and rules related to the upcoming 2024-2026 election of officers

The Nominating Committee for the 2024 – 2026 officers was finalized at the December 13th business meeting.

Nominating Committee

Debbie Lemieux – chair
Anita Chandler
Ann Smith
Fran Breton
Karen Arnold

Officer Positions to be filled:

Club President term 2024-2026
Club Director term 2024-2026
Vice President term 2024-2025
Secretary term 2024-2025
Treasurer term 2024-2025

January 2024 Nominating committee meets in preparation of canvassing candidates for the slate. Reach out to anyone on the committee, if you are interested in a position. Reminder: Members of the Nominating committee cannot be slated by the committee, but may be nominated from the floor.

February 7, 2024 Business meeting: Chair of the Nominating committee will announce the slate. Members have an opportunity to consider the slate as presented and to consider potential nominations from the floor which they may like to present at the next business meeting.

March 6, 2024 Business meeting: The President will ask for nominations for each position from the floor and then vote on the nominations.

Note:

There are **26** members, there needs to be a quorum (majority).
13 need to be in attendance to vote.

If there is only one candidate per office, then a motion & a second from the floor are required for secretary to cast the ballot. If more than one candidate, then a separate vote will need to be conducted for each office.



Altrusa International Foundation of Portland, Maine, Inc.

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<https://districtone.altrusa.org>

<https://www.portlandaltrusa.org>

Our Service Projects



ABC

Wanda Pettersen reads to 2 classrooms at Saccarappa School in Westbrook



Karen Valley reads to students at Saccarappa School in Westbrook



ABC at Windham Elementary

ABC



Wanda Pettersen reads to the Windham kiddos.



Pam Lemieux reads to Windham Kindergartners.

more News

On Tuesday, December 19th, Marie Pike, and Pam Lemieux were the guest chefs at the Ronald McDonald House. We decided to make a Shepherd's Pie (hamburger, onion, corn, and mashed potatoes) and a side of roasted carrots. To finish off the meal, we had homemade chocolate chip cookies. Yum.

The volunteer covering the front desk that afternoon helped us peel the potatoes. She told us that the Staff was just talking about Shepherd's Pie and that it had been a while since someone made it. Then she told us about getting Taco's three nights in a row, so Shepherd's Pie was a good choice!

The Portland Altrusa Club supports the Guest Chef program at the Ronald McDonald house on every 3rd Tuesday of the month. Portland Altrusan, Ann Smith, coordinates this activity. All Portland Altrusans can volunteer to be guest chefs. Please notify Ann Smith of your interest in participating.

Pam Lemieux, Portland Altrusa Service Committee Co-Chair



December

Birthday Girl of the Month

Anita Chandler

Happy Birthday!



other Committees' News

ASTRA Tidbit

This is the current ASTRA Sweatshirt that Altrusa bought for them last year. Trish noticed that President Delaina Grover wore hers Saturday at "Breakfast with Frosty" until she got so hot in the Gym, working the obstacle course, that she had to take it off.



MEMBERSHIP Committee

It was exciting to have 3 'Potential Member' guests at our Holiday Party on December 13th at the Riverside Golf Club. This committee gives a hearty THANK YOU to their sponsors (and to Pam Lemieux for stepping in when Martha Gross wasn't available). Great job!!

That evening we received 3 "RECOMMENDATION FOR MEMBERSHIP" forms from their Sponsors:

Pam Szalajeski for Toni Parise - 2017 winner of our 'Volunteer of the Year' award



Martha Gross for Gail Mazzone - a former member in 2010-2012



Katie Lamb for Cathy Paglio - a childcare licensing specialist.

Our Board has approved the applications. The process now, if there is no objection from any member, is for President Wanda to issue a letter of invitation; stating that dues are half price (\$50) till June 1st (plus the \$10 Initiation fee); & assigning them to one of our committees.

Our next club meeting is January 3, 2024. Please remember to wear your name tags visibly on your right shoulder so they can get to know us, while we are getting to know them.

Thank you.



Ability Service Training Responsibility Achievement

Songo Locks school in Naples "ROCKS" just like Altrusa.
Frosty made sure that ASTRA got to eat, too.



Word is getting around the Lakes Region area of Maine that ASTRA is a good source of volunteers to help out with community service projects. Now that COVID has subsided enough to start socializing again, the local PTA resumed their previously annual "Breakfast with Frosty" and contacted ASTRA for assistance.

Held on Saturday morning, Dec. 2nd at Songo Locks elementary school in Naples, each ASTRA volunteer chose their favorite task of:

- Serving pancakes, etc. from the KITCHEN;
- Providing table service in the DINING ROOM;
- Helping little folks assemble CRAFTS; or
- Assisting with the Obstacle Courses in the GYM.

The event was very well attended by entire families, so all jobs were extremely busy. ASTRA handled them amazingly well.

At the end, Frosty & the PTA made sure all volunteers also got to eat the delicious breakfast. That pleased ASTRA immensely.

The Naples Rec Department also contacted ASTRA to resume a project they did for them last year, that was a big hit with the young children: "Writing Letters from SANTA". They created a pile of those at their morning meeting on December 14th.

ASTRA also responded to an urgent request from the Naples Food Pantry by delivering a supply of Winter hats & mittens for children.

ASTRA loves being able to accomplish something during their morning meetings every other week. When not writing letters from SANTA, they will continue with making bracelets for their fundraising; and decorating the white bags they will need in February for their "February Vacation Activity Bags" for the Elementary schools.

ASTRA volunteering at "Breakfast with Frosty"

ASTRA duties:
Kitchen, Dining Room, Crafts, Obstacle Course.

Santa's Elves at work:

These ASTRA students are writing letters from SANTA for the Naples Recreation department.



Altrusa International Foundation of Portland, Maine Inc.

www.altrusaportland.org

January 2024 Calendar Raffle

@AltrusaPortland

ALTRUSA
OF
PORTLAND
MAINE
Calendar Raffle
2024

Raffle Entries are \$10 each
All Raffle Entries are eligible for EVERY daily drawing. 31 Chances to win!!
Nearly \$2,300 in Cash and Prizes

Purchase entries from any Portland Altrusan. We'll offer you payment options to fit your needs.
 Or contact us at altrusaportland@gmail.com for more information.
 You must be at least 18 years old to enter
 Download a copy of this calendar at
<https://www.altrusaportland.org/calendar-raffle-2024>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 \$50 Gift Card	2 3 Months of Fudge or Candy You choose the type \$75 Value	3 \$100	4 \$50 Gift Card	5 \$25 Gift Card \$50 Gift Card \$75 Value	6 \$50 Gift Card
7 \$50 Gift Card	8 \$50 Gift Card	9 Glacier Blue Silk Scarf By Mark Kelley \$50 Value	10 \$75 Gift Certificate	11 \$50 Gift Card \$100 Value	12 \$50 Gift Card	13 \$30 Gift Card Necklace \$50 Value \$80 Value
14 \$50 Gift Card	15 \$50 Gift Card	16 \$100 Gift Card	17 \$30 Gift Card \$20 Gift Card \$50 Value	18 \$50 Gift Card	19 \$50 Gift Card	20 \$75
21 \$30 Gift Card \$30 Gift Card \$60 Value	22 \$100 Gift Card	23 \$60 Gift Card	24 \$50 Gift Card	25 \$25 Gift Card \$50 Value \$75 Value	26 2 Hours like design, planting, pruning, Spring or Fall clean up \$70 Value	27 LeRoux Kitchen \$100 Gift Card
28 \$50 Gift Card	29 \$50 Gift Card	30 \$50 Gift Card 3 Children's Books \$30 Value \$80 Value	31 \$300	All proceeds from this raffle will be used to fund annual vocational and educational scholarships, our many literacy focused projects, and several community programs sponsored by our club. Altrusa Portland is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit organization. Portland Altrusa appreciates your support. Good Luck!		

Telephone #: _____
 How did you hear about us? _____

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____

ZIP CODE: _____
 STATE: _____



Other Things

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 wants us to enter literacy hours as a separate category.

from the
Altrusagram
editor



Many thanks in advance for all your efforts and your support in providing your input to Altrusa articles and photos. And also, Thanks to Trish Maxim's proofing!!

Please email myself, Debbie, at dalemieux33@gmail.com with anything you consider newsworthy. My deadline for submissions is the 3rd Friday of the month.

-- Debbie L.



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.

Mark your calendar for these Future District & International Events

District One Conference

April 26-28, 2024

Double Tree by Hilton

Andover, Mass

59th International Convention

July 23-26, 2025

Location TBD

Quebec City, Canada