



District One Altrusa International, inc.
 Bermuda, Canada, Connecticut, Massachusetts
 New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont
District One Service Bulletin
 Volume 29 Issue 4 "Leaders in Service"
 January 2025
 Call to Conference

**District One Officers
 2023-2025**

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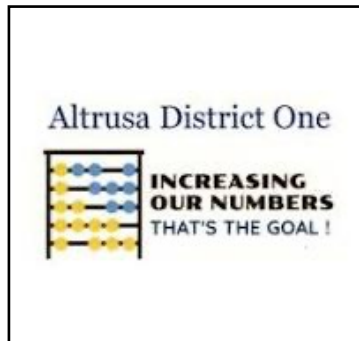
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Pam Lemieux, Past Governor
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Governor's Message



I hope everyone had a great holiday season. It has only been a few weeks since the last District Service Bulletin arrived in your email. Cathy Baybutt does an outstanding job with the DSB. Thank You Cathy for doing such a great job and getting it out on time. Thank You, Thank You.

The last DSB was jammed packed with information and ideas from all of you, ideas shared at the workshop. These were topics requested by members. Thanks to all participants for willingly sharing their suggestions.

We also shared how to get members into leadership roles, how to get local media to cover our events, and finally how to get members involved in service and fundraising activities. Discussion was lively with a lot of great ideas brought forward. I hope you keep a copy and reread it periodically.

We also had fun in the afternoon workshops. It is important to have fun in your meetings. The board is planning on having fun at this upcoming conference as well as providing information and conducting the business of the district.



Governor's Message continued:

This is a special conference as Susan Porrazzo will be installed as your new governor. Susan and her newly elected board will be getting to work on Sunday after conference for their first of many board meetings. She and her board will work to improve this outstanding organization we all belong to. You not only help your communities by doing outstanding service, but you are also there for each other. I have heard from many Altrusans stating how fantastic their club members were when they had a tragedy or sickness. They were there with support, meals, driving to appointments etc. Altrusans are really special people. We are fortunate to belong to Altrusa

Come to conference if you can and meet other outstanding people.

Please look over the DSB, you will find the registration for conference. Notice first timers to conference will receive free registration. That is an \$85.00 saving! You only pay for your meals. The meals are expensive but remember they include the meal, and a facility administrative fee of 23%. We will be having the conference at Wellspring Resort Center. Notice everything the hotel has to offer. Topics for workshops come from members. The board heard you. The party on Friday night is back by popular demand. Last year it was a huge success and many requested that we repeat it. It was a great social event and a fun way to start a conference. And of course we will present awards. All the clubs do activities that can be written up for an award. We do not do the activities for the awards, but it is nice to get recognized for our good work. If you need help with submitting the award, let us know.

I am eager to see all of you at the conference.

Governor Rita



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Plymouth County Altrusa invites you to the 2025 District One Spring Conference



Call to Conference

We'd like to welcome you to Spring Conference 2025 in Southbridge MA! We are looking forward to having you join Plymouth County as we celebrate Altrusa.

Despite our varied backgrounds perspectives, and experiences, we are united by our shared membership in Altrusa. Each of us brings something unique to the table enriching our collective journey.

We look forward to learning, growing, and thriving together as one human family in Southbridge.

**Hosted by
Plymouth County Altrusa**



Venture outside your comfort zone
Diversity
Equity
Inclusion
The rewards are worth it

**Altrusa District One
Spring Conference**

May 2-5, 2025

**WELLSWORTH
HOTEL**

Southbridge, MA



ALTRUSA | Leading to a Better Community®
International District One



Menus selected-subject to minimal change

Friday night Dinner Buffet

Salad bar and soup of the day
2 hot entrees, a hot vegetable and starch
Assortment of desserts
Coffee, tea, and assorted soft drinks

Saturday Breakfast Buffet

Eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries
Either pancakes, waffles or French toast
Sliced and whole fruit, granola, hot and cold cereals, breakfast breads
Coffee, tea, and juices

Saturday Luncheon Buffet

Salad bar, deli bar and soup of the day
2 hot entrees, a hot vegetable and starch
Assortment of desserts
Coffee, tea, and assorted soft drinks

Saturday Night Plated Dinner

Garden Salad, Starch and Vegetable
Choice of : Chicken Cordon Bleu
Prime Rib
Bourbon Glazed Salmon
Vegan Ravioli
Fruit Tart for Dessert
Coffee and Tea service

Sunday Breakfast Buffet

Eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries
Either pancakes, waffles or French toast
Sliced and whole fruit, granola, hot and cold cereals, breakfast breads
Coffee, tea, and juices

Hotel Reservation Information

Wellsworth Hotel
14 Mechanic Street
Southbridge, MA 01550

Reservation Procedures:

To book a room call Wellsworth Hotel at (508) 765-8000. Be sure to indicate that you are making reservations for the group named "Altrusa District One Conference 2025" so that you will access our room block and our special rates.

You may book online as well at www.WellsworthHotel.com The direct link to book rooms is:

The booking code is ADOC 2208.

All rooms must be reserved by April 2, 2025 to get the special group rate. After that date rooms will be released from the room block and reservations after that date are based on availability and best available rate/not the group rate.

The room rate is \$155.26 including all taxes for single or double occupancy. An extra person will incur an \$11.17 including taxes, extra charge. This favorable overnight room rate will be honored for 2 days before and after our group's event.

Check-in time is 3 PM. Check-out time is 11 AM.

For those arriving by car, the hotel is located right off of Interstate 90, Exit 78, Route 84 and Exit 6B towards Sturbridge.

All rooms include:

- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Refrigerators
- Coffeemakers
- High-Definition TVs
- Work desks
- Hairdryers
- Irons/Ironing Boards
- Radio alarm clocks

On Site:

Visions Restaurant

Open for breakfast only

Shades Lounge

Open 4 PM to 10 PM

Focus Fitness:

Treadmills

Exercise equipment

Indoor heated swimming pool

Hot tub

Two racquetball courts



Accommodations

Spacious Rooms & Suites

Our 203 luxuriously furnished guest rooms guarantee a relaxing stay at an unbeatable value in Central Massachusetts. From elegant decor to modern amenities, our spacious executive accommodations were designed to leave you feeling refreshed.

All rooms and suites feature refrigerators, coffeemakers, high-definition TVs, premium bath amenities and plenty of space to spread out and relax. Stay connected and productive using our complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi and work desks, then reward yourself with a trip to our impressive Focus Fitness Center or Shades Lounge. At the end of the night, sink into a comfy mattress piled high with premium pillows and linens.

Whether you need to prepare for an important meeting or just want a quiet place to unwind, the Wellsworth Hotel has the perfect accommodations for your next visit.

All Rooms Include:

- Complimentary high-speed Wi-Fi
- Refrigerators
- Coffeemakers
- High-Definition TVs
- DVD players
- Work desks
- Ergonomically designed desk chairs
- Hairdryers
- Irons/Ironing boards
- Radio alarm clocks
- Bath & Body Works amenities





Dining

Visions Restaurant

There's no shortage of great food at the Wellsworth Hotel.

Our stylish Visions Restaurant serves delicious a la carte meals that are both delicious and healthy. Grab a table next to Vision's dramatic floor-to-ceiling windows, and enjoy a range of International and American cuisine while enjoying beautiful courtyard views.



Shades Lounge

No visit to the Wellsworth Hotel is complete without a trip to our full-service lounge, Shades. Savor tasty pub food and beer, or sample our impressive selection of wines and cocktails. This casual lounge bar is the perfect place to stop in for a late-night snack, game of darts or pool.

Services

Focus Fitness

- Treadmills
- Variety of exercise equipment
- Indoor heated swimming pool
- Hot tub
- Two racquetball courts
- Basketball court



— Activities & Attractions —

Local Breweries:

Altruist Brewing Company: 774-241-8022 / <https://www.altruistbrewing.com/>

559 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01518

Hours of Operation: Sun 12:00pm-6:00pm; Mon-Tues Closed; Wed-Thurs 4:00pm-9:00pm; Fri 4:00pm-10:00pm; Sat 12:00pm-6:00pm

Oakholm Brewing: 413-272-9620 / <https://www.oakholmbrewing.com/>

80 Lake Rd, Brookfield, MA 01506

Hours of Operation: Sun 12:00pm-6:00pm; Mon-Tues Closed; Wed 3:00pm-9:00pm; Thurs 4:00pm-9:00pm; Fri 3:00pm-9:30pm; Sat 12:00pm-9:30pm

Rapscallion Brewery & Taproom: 508-347-7500 / visitrapscallion.com

8 Meadow Rd, Spencer, MA 01562

Hours of Operation: Sun 12:00pm-8:00pm; Mon-Thurs 4:00pm-10:00pm; Fri-Sat 12:00pm-10:00pm

Taylor Brooke Brewery: 860-315-7503 / <https://www.taylorbrookebrewery.com/>

818 Connecticut 171, Woodstock, CT 06281

Hours of Operation: Sun 12:00pm-6:00pm; Mon-Thurs Closed; Fri 2:00pm-6:00pm; Sat 12:00pm-5:00pm

Tree House Brewing Company: 413-523-2367 / <https://treehousebrew.com>

129 Sturbridge Rd, Charlton, MA 01507

Hours of Operation: Sun 12:00pm-8:00pm; Mon-Thurs 11:00am-8:00pm; Fri-Sat 11:00am-9:00pm

Local Vineyards:

Brimfield Winery: 413-245-3436 / <https://brimfieldwinery.com/>

35 Main St, Brimfield, MA 01010

Hours of Operation: Closed Until May

Taylor Brooke Winery: 860-974-1263 / <https://www.taylorbrookewinery.com/>

818 Connecticut 171, Woodstock, CT 06281

Hours of Operation: Sun 12:00pm-6:00pm; Mon-Wed Closed; Thurs
2:00pm-7:30pm; Fri 2:00pm-8:30pm; Sat 12:00pm-7:30pm

Queen Bee Vineyard: 413-267-9329 / <https://www.queenbeevineyard.com/>

173 Moulton Hill Rd, Monson, MA 01057

Hours of Operation: Sat-Sun 12:00pm-5:00pm; Mon-Fri Closed

Golf Courses:

Blackstone National Golf Club: 508-865-2111 / <https://www.bngc.net/>

227 Putnam Hill Rd, Sutton, MA 01590

Hours of Operation: Sun-Sat 8:00am-6:00pm

Cohasse Country Club: 508-764-6801 / <https://www.cohasse.com>

393 Eastford Rd, Southbridge, MA 01550

Hours of Operation: Mon-Wed Closed; Thurs-Sun 11:00am-5:00pm

Heritage Country Club: 508-248-5111 / <https://www.heritagecountryclub.com>

85 Sampson Rd, Charlton, MA 01507

Hours of Operation: Sun-Sat 6:30am-6:00pm

Hemlock Ridge Golf Course: 508-347-9935 / <https://www.hemlockridgegolfcourse.com>

220 Holland Rd, Fiskdale, MA 01518

Hours of Operation: Sun-Sat 6:00am-7:00pm

Pine Ridge Country Club: 508-892-9188 / <https://www.pineridgegolf.net>

28 Pleasant St, North Oxford, MA 01537

Hours of Operation: Mon-Wed 3:00pm-9:00pm; Thurs-Sun 12:00pm-
9:00pm

Area Attractions:

Brush It Off Art & Pottery Studio: 774-241-3444 / <https://brush-it-off.com/>

559 Main St State Route 20, Sturbridge, MA 01518

Hours of Operation: Sun 12:00pm-4:30pm; Mon-Tues Closed; Wed-Fri 2:00pm-8:00pm; Sat 12:00-8:00pm

Escape the Pike: 774-241-0508 / <https://www.escapethepike.com>

179 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Hours of Operation: Sat-Sun Closed; Mon-Fri 4:00pm-8:00pm

Old Sturbridge Village: 800-733-1830 / <https://www.osv.org>

New England's largest outdoor living history museum

1 Old Sturbridge Village Rd, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Hours of Operation: Mon-Tues Closed; Wed-Sun 9:30am-5:00pm

The Adventure Park at Storrs: 860-946-0606 / <https://myadventurepark.com>

Aerial adventure park with rope courses & zip lines

2007 Storrs Rd, Storrs, CT 06268

Hours of Operation: Sun-Thurs 10:00am-6:00pm; Fri-Sat 10:00am-9:00pm

Thompson Speedway: 860-923-2280 / <https://www.thompsons Speedway.com/>

205 E Thompson Rd, Thompson, CT 06277

Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 9:00am-4:00pm; Sat-Sun Closed

Pickleball U: 774-304-1008 / <https://www.pickleballu.com/>

Indoor Pickleball

178 Main St, Sturbridge, MA 01566

Hours of Operation: Sun-Sat 6:00am-10:00pm

Preliminary Conference Schedule

Friday -- May 2	3:00 – 4:00	District Board Meeting
	3:00 – 5:00	Registration
	4:15 – 5:30	Days for Girls Hands on Service Project
		Alternate: Tech Workshop-Canva/Rack Card
	6:00 – 7:00	Welcome Dinner--Buffet
	7:15 – 9:00	Magical Storybook Evening of Fun and Games
Saturday -- May 3	7:30 – 9:00	Registration-Breakfast-Set up Foundation Silent Auction
	7:30 – 7:45	Delegates Briefing
	7:45 – 8:30	First Timers Briefing
	8:30 – 9:00	Flag Ceremony Rehearsal
	8:45 – 9:00	Expeditors Briefing
	9:00 – 10:45	First Business Session: Flag Ceremony, Welcome, Adoption of conference rules and program, Credentials and Registration reports, Nominations, Introduction of Candidates, Financials, Budget, Foundation, BRR
	10:45 – 11:00	Stretch Break
	11:00 – 11:30	Message from our International Representative
	11:30 – 12:00	Memorial Service
	12:00 – 12:15	Voting for District Board
	12:15 – 1:15	Lunch- Parade of Presidents/Club Anniversary Awards
	1:15 - 2:00	Guest Speaker
	2:10 – 2:50	Breakout Session #1: Tech Workshop-Canva/Rack Card
		Breakout Session #2: Surprise workshop
	3:00 – 3:40	Breakout Session #1: Book Club
		Breakout Session #2: Tech-Social Media
	3:45 – 4:30	Fun activity around District One history
	4:30 – 4:45	Set up Fundraising Fair
	4:45 – 5:45	Fundraising Fair

Preliminary Conference Schedule

	6:00 – 6:45	Reception for International Representative
	6:45 – 7:45	Dinner/Parade of Past Governors
	7:45 – 8:15	Awards-Membership, Sponsor Pins, Attendance,
		ASTRA Service, Newsletter, Years of Service, Governor’s Award
	8:15 – 8:30	Remarks from outgoing Governor Rita Cote
	8:30 – 9:30	Installation of Governor Susan Porazzo and Board
	9:30 – 11:00	Reception for Governor Susan Porazzo
Sunday – May 4	7:30 – 8:30	Breakfast Buffet
	8:30 – 9:45	Second Business Session: Dues Increase Vote, Budget
		Vote, Foundation update, Unfinished Business
	9:45 – 10:30	Major Awards: ‘ Mamie L. Bass, Letha H. Brown, Nina F. Calhoun and the Gabrielle Crepeau Leadership Award
	10:30 – 11:15	Break for Check Out
	11:15 – 11:45	Call to Convention 2025/Workshop2025/ Conference’26
		Retire the Flags/ Goodbyes
	12:00 – 2:00	Post Conference Board Meeting





January 14, 2025

Rita Cote
Governor
Altrusa International District One, Inc.

Dear Governor Cote:

Greetings to all District One board members.

I am honored to have been designated by the international president, Linda Smith, to attend the next Conference at District One. This is the most significant activity for me to engage with the broader community of leaders and innovators in Altrusa International.

My participation reflects the Board's commitment to advancing the goals and values we all hold within our service group. I will bring International closer to all of you, share, listen, learn from others, and celebrate your anniversary. As requested by the Altrusa International office, I'm including my biography for your reference. Please don't hesitate to reach out should you need any additional information or preparation from my side. I also appreciate being informed about the Conference schedules and program.

I'm excited to meet and share with District One members. I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Warm regards,

Ileana Pacheco Morales
International Board Director
Altrusa International, Inc.

Meet International Representative to District One

ALTRUSA LEADERSHIP

- **CLUB**

Member since 1994
Club President 2002-2003
Past President since 2004
Treasure 2001-2002, 2022-2023
Local ASTRA Advisor
Served and chaired all clubs standing
Committees
Chair Fundraising Committee

- **DISTRICT**

Conference Chair 2002
ASTRA Coordinator 2011-2013
Second Vice governor 2013-2015
First Vice governor 2015-2017
Governor-elect 2017-2019
Governor 2019-2021
Immediate Past Governor 2021-2023
Past Governor 2023
Foundation Lamplighter 2023
Presenter and workshop facilitator
At many Districts activities

- **INTERNATIONAL**

Member International Leadership
Committee 2017-2019
Member Mentoring Program Committee
2017-2019
Member ASTRA International Committee,
Liason with District Four and Fourteen
2021-2023. International Board Liason
2023-2025

ILEANA PACHECO -MORALES



Ileana Pacheco- Morales has been elected Director of the International Board of Directors 2023-2025 at Altrusa International, Inc. Convention. District Fourteen members are proud for her passion and energy that surely enhance Altrusa's values. Her past experiences with the organization have prepared her for this new role.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Retired medical technologist
- Member of the College of Medical Technologist of Puerto Rico
- College of Medical Technologist president- West Region
College of Medical Technologist Trustees Member
- College of Medical Technologist Board of Directors member
- College of Medical Technologist Distinguish Award
- Health Clinic Volunteer around Puerto Rico
- Mentor in Bacteriology field for medical technologist students at the Interamerican University of San Germán.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

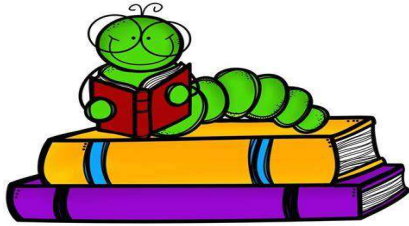
Eta Gama Delta Sorority Member
Cabo Rojo Lions Club Co-Member
AFA Foundation, Inc. Board Secretary
Member of Commemorative 250 years of Cabo Rojo
Foundation Committee.

Volunteer at:

Hogar Portal de Amor- children's shelter
Hogar Crea- drug addicts rehabilitation home
Elderly of Cabo Rojo
Estancia Corazón- for HIV patients

Married to Antonio Fas, mother of three and grandma of six beautiful grandchildren. Hobby is gardening and listen music.

There are many obligations when engaging with Altrusa; among these is the responsibility to participate actively.



JOIN US FOR SEACOAST'S MAGICAL STORYBOOK EVENING OF FUN AND GAMES

1. Show up!! (Receive one door prize ticket)
2. Bring a book for Seacoast to deliver to Mainspring Collective in Kittery, ME (Receive two more door prize tickets)
3. Wear a costume representing your favorite children's storybook character (receive an additional three door prize tickets)

Best Individual and Best Club costume will be awarded prizes.

Enter the game room, start playing and winning prizes!

Games will be revealed as the night progresses.
Group games start at 8 followed by table games.
(Hint: bring singles \$\$ for Left Right Center)



Save room after dinner for delicious desserts; designed and displayed delectably for that divine denouement.



Smile and put your best foot forward
for a fun-filled night.

Don't forget to mark your registration form to let the party committee know if you plan to attend! We need a count for prizes!!

Memorial Service Request



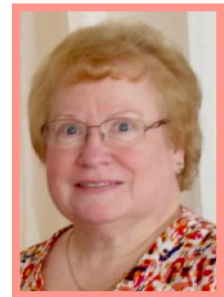
One of our dearest traditions during our District One Conference is our Memorial Service. This is a special part of the business meeting where we remember our dear sisters who have passed during the previous year.

If you lost a member during the 2024-25 year, please email the name of the person, picture and club affiliation to me by Saturday, March 31, 2025. As in the past, a Club member is asked to read a synopsis (up to 1 double spaced typed page) about that member during the Service. Please submit the write-up to me so I have available copies should there be any need the day of the service. I can provide additional information to the Clubs once I receive the name.

Club Presidents, if your Club has been blessed not to have a member pass, please still email me with that information so I can be sure all clubs have received this message.

Thank you and look forward to hearing from you.

Pat Jackowski
Altrusa International of Central Connecticut
pjjcjj@sbcglobal.net
H: 860-344-8622
C: 860-638-8018



Arlene Miele

As we were going to print, we received word that Arlene Miele, from the Merrimack Valley club passed away unexpectedly on the 28th of January from a massive heart attack. Arlene had been an active member of Altrusa for over 40 years. Linda Ring shared a beautiful photo of Arlene as she celebrated a birthday. We send our condolences to Arlene's family and to her Altrusa sisters who will miss her dearly.



Workshops



Book Club / Book Swap

Come to the book club session at Conference prepared to share the title, author and a couple of sentences about a good book you've read recently. The number of people attending will determine how much time you have to talk about that great read - so plan to be concise!

Also, bring a book to swap. It can be the one you are going to talk about or it can be a different book that you've read and are willing to give up.



Working with CANVA. (HANDS ON).

BRING YOUR LAPTOP

Ideas to refresh your collateral! Ok.. what does that mean? That's what it's called when you review your current business cards, rack cards, brochures and decide how to use apps like CANVA to refresh and update them. You can learn the tools to improve your social media presence or create new promotional materials. Bring your lap top, bring your current print media (business cards, rack cards, brochures) bring a digital copy of your logo, and together we can work on creating a rack card for you and introduce ideas and concepts for you to take away and think about.



History of DISTRICT ONE

Knowing the history of Altrusa is the foundation upon which member participation is based. At this interactive workshop the history of District One clubs (past, present and future) will be the focus. This **FUN** workshop will also include information about members from DO clubs who have led Altrusa forward over our many years. **JOIN US TO FIND OUT WHAT YOU KNOW – AND WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW!**

Other workshops under development

- Social Media
- Surprise topic - TBA
- Days for Girls - Hands On - Friday

Susan Porazzo - Governor Elect



I have been a member of Altrusa International of Plymouth County since 1998. During those years, I have served as President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary for the club. I did attend and present the scholarship to the winner of our Scholarship at Massasoit Community College Choices program; Warm Hands, Warm Hearts; Altrusa Reading for Life Literacy Grant committee member; Tri-Town Rotary Flea Market (served food) and participated in many club fundraisers.

My personal volunteering has been primarily with School on Wheels of MA as a volunteer tutor for 10 years and one year as a College Mentor. I worked at their sites

in Stoughton MA and multiple tutoring sites in Brockton MA. I was a Red Sox Foundation volunteer for 10 years as well. I participated in their 50/50 Raffle at Red Sox games, Run to Home Base for 5 years, Scholar graduation day and Scholar back-to-school shopping events and worked at the Dimock Health Center in Boston as a RSF volunteer. I have conducted classes on behalf of Junior Achievement in the Quincy public school system, volunteered at the Quincy Community Pop-Up food bank and volunteered with Cradles to Crayons.

I have been an employee of State Street Corporation for over 30 years. I have worked in various departments and sites including almost 3 years in our Frankfurt, Germany office. I am also the former owner/president of Aloette of Boston which was located in Hanover for 5 years.

Candidates for District One Officers 2025-2027

For Governor Elect



Wanda Pettersen
Portland, ME

Wanda Pettersen has been an active member of Altrusa International of Portland, ME since 2016. Besides having been the Clubs President from 2022 – 2024, she served as the Club’s Vice President from 2020-2022 and has served as Club Treasurer from 2016 – 2020; and chaired the Clubs Finance Committee from 2018 – 2021 and currently Co-Chairs the Club’s Service Committee.

At the District level, Wanda has served as District Treasurer from 2021 – 2023 and is currently serving as First Vice Governor 2023-2025.

For First Vice Governor



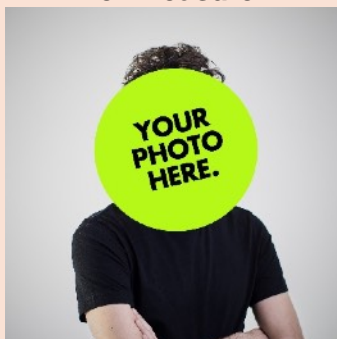
Jodi Walencewicz
Northeastern CT

I’ve been ‘on the move” most of my life. I grew up in a military family, therefore, we moved every two years. Adapting to new neighborhoods, new schools, and new friends with each move - It was great way to grow up, in my opinion. It led to a willingness to be involved in the community and “serve.”

I became a member of Altrusa International of Northeastern Connecticut in 2020. I attended a meeting as a guest and learned that Altrusans are open, welcoming, well rounded and accepting. The work and outreach of Altrusa is wonderful. I felt Altrusa was a good next step for me. Within a few months, I was invited to consider the position of Vice President, installed in 2021, and moved up to President of our Club in 2023.

There is still so much to learn about Altrusa, and I look forward to serving and growing at the District Level.

For Treasurer



Position Open

This is YOUR opportunity to step up and serve on the District Level. We understand that being treasurer is sometimes a daunting proposition... but District One will have 2 past Treasurers on the Board during 2025-2027, and you will have their full support, guidance and assistance. (Thank you Rita and Wanda!)

Please reach out to any member of the nominating committee for more information. Linda Ring (Linda.Ring.Altrusa@gmail.com), Pam Lemieux (plemieux4263@gmail.com), or Laura Cortright (llccmb@yahoo.com)

Candidates for District One Officers 2025-2027

For Director



Barara Leavey
Seacoast, ME

After my husband of 36 years passed in 2016, I took a leap of faith, quit my job as a para-legal, sold the house and relocated from Poughkeepsie, NY to York, ME in January, 2017. I knew no one here. Following much soul searching walking our lovely Maine beaches, I realized I just wanted to volunteer and get involved with the community.

Not long after I met two wonderful Altrusans from the Seacoast Club and again, took a leap and attended a meeting. We all make many decisions in life; that was one of the best! I became an Altrusan in Jan. 2019, went on to serve as Secretary and have been the Club President for the past four years.

The best part of being an Altrusan: I now have many dear friends, am meeting more with every conference and workshop I attend and getting to live up to and follow the Altrusa ideals of service to the community through our many projects.

I look forward to continuing my Altrusa journey by serving on the District One Board as a Director.

For Director



Debbie Lemieux
Portland, ME

An Altrusan since late in 2016, I served as chair on the Communications committee from 2017 – 2023. In 2018, I joined the Altrusa Portland board as a director. In 2019, I became VP and in 2020, assumed the role of President. That was interesting as my tenure was alongside the COVID19 breakout.

I also served on the District Communications Committee under the tutelage of Linda Ring and later as Communications Chair for District One, and published the District Service Bulletin.

While I still serve on the Portland Communications Committee and publish the ALTRUSAGRAM, I have recently been assigned co-chair of the Membership Development Committee and ASTRA alongside Trish Maxim.

Seeking nomination for International Foundation Board of Directors

Another Way to Serve

District One will be eligible this spring to nominate a candidate to serve on the Altrusa International Foundation board. My term will be ending at the Convention in July. The typical term is four years, unless you serve as Chair or Finance Chair and then you serve an additional two years as past chair. The International Foundation is a fantastic organization and so important to the work the Altrusa clubs do. The trustees during my term have been an impressive group of dedicated and talented women. I am so thankful to Anne Rash and Ann Marie Snyder for talking me into running for this board six years ago. So now, let me talk you into giving it a chance! Please consider this opportunity. Let's talk! Submitted by Marie Pike

2024 Conference Silent Auction

It's time for each club to choose a donation for the silent auction to raise money for the International Foundation. Each year District One sends a large donation to assist the Foundation with many good works, including awarding grants to clubs, providing disaster relief worldwide and supporting Club 21 projects.

The silent auction will run from Saturday morning until Sunday morning. Everyone is encouraged to bid early and often. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

There will also be a **50/50 raffle** with tickets sold throughout conference. The proceeds will be split between the winner and International Foundation. Details will be announced at the first business meeting of conference.

Thank you for your help. Anne Rash

Seacoast Club received a grant from International Foundation

(The only club in cycle two from District One)

Peaceful Play - Empowered families

While visiting the new Mainspring facility soon to open in Kittery, ME we found out that domestic violence victims being enrolled for benefits often have their children with them when they are being interviewed. These tablets and headphones will provide a better atmosphere for those being interviewed, enabling them to provide information while protecting the children from having to hear uncomfortable details during the process.

We imagine any interviewee of those looking to protect children will be aware of availability of the tablets and we are hoping to expand the project if the need dictates.

These tablets are going to CAPS in Dover, NH (our speaker from the conference is the director) and Mainspring of Kittery, ME.



Fundraiser Fair

One of the fun activities of Spring Conference is the Fundraiser Fair. The creativity of the clubs and their members is always impressive. From hand sewn items, to home made cookies, themed gift baskets and raffles, clubs have an opportunity to raise funds to support their club. Since sales are limited to Altrusans, funds raised can be kept in the club accounts to support membership activities and programs. Plus the frenzy of one hour speed shopping is always a bit of fun. The times and location of the fair are in the conference schedule. We encourage all to participate!

Service Awards 2025

For centuries, awards have played a significant role in human society, acting to acknowledge accomplishments and inspire individuals to pursue excellence. The awards honor and celebrate exceptional achievements, talents, and contributions.

Service Awards offer a valuable opportunity to showcase our work to other Clubs while recognizing remarkable accomplishments. They also outline the best practices for executing a successful project.

It is advisable to initiate the process before launching the project itself. Reviewing the application ahead of time can record your efforts as they occur. This approach should simplify the application process since you'll already have the necessary information.

Alterations made in 2024 include a synopsis limit of 100 words, with supporting documentation capped at six pages. The District Awards Chair, Ann Milliard, will eliminate any pages exceeding the initial six before forwarding the packets to the judges, and the narrative limit is set at 1000 words. Suppose the District Awards Chair receives the application before the March 15, 2025, deadline. In that case, you will be informed of any issues, allowing you to make the necessary adjustments and resubmit before the March 15, 2025, deadline.

Local clubs should submit applications for the Mamie L. Bass Service Award, the Letha H Brown Literacy Award, the Nina Faye Calhoun International Award, the Gabriel Crepeau Leadership Award, and the Newsletter Award to the District Awards Chair, Ann Milliard, at acmrpm@gmail.com. The District Awards Chair will confirm receipt via email. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please get in touch with the District Awards Chair.

If you have any questions, contact the District Awards Chair, your Club President, or the Governor.

March 15, 2025

Local clubs submit applications for the Mamie L. Bass Service Award, the Letha H Brown Literacy Award, the Nina Faye Calhoun International Award, the Gabriel Crepeau Leadership Award, and the Newsletter Award electronically to the District Awards Chair, Ann Milliard, at acmrpm@gmail.com.

The District Awards Chair will confirm receipt via email.

The District Awards Chair sends submissions and scoring sheets to the appropriate Award Chair, who distributes them to the Judges.

April 1, 2025

Judges return scoring sheets to the Award Chair.

Winners, first, second, and third place to the District Awards Chair.

District Awards Chair - acknowledge receipt of all awards.

District Awards Chair - Sends Award results to the District Secretary.

Submitted by Ann Millard

New Awards for your consideration

Call for Award Nominations

Wilma B. Hogan Enduring Community Project Award

The Wilma B. Hogan Enduring Community Project Award was established in 2024 by the Altrusa International Foundation, Inc. in memory of Wilma B. Hogan, a member of Altrusa International of Tampa Bay, Florida, Inc. The Wilma B. Hogan Enduring Community Project Award is given biennially by the Foundation to recognize an Altrusa Club service project and its role in providing community service.

To be eligible, the service project should:

- Have been started by the nominating Club.
- Be in operation at the time of nomination.
- Be in operation for a minimum of five years.
- Demonstrate growth and development over the years.
- Demonstrate success in its performance and goals.
- Demonstrate exemplary, innovative, and replicable strategies. Not include fundraising.
- Be nominated by an Altrusa Club in good standing.
- Be supported by the Club either monetarily, by personal service, or both.

Each Club may submit one qualifying service project in each biennium.

The winning service project will be announced at the International Convention.

The nominating deadline is April 1, 2025. The award will be accompanied by a monetary award determined each biennium by the Foundation. The monetary award is to be utilized for the winning service project.

Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award

The purpose of the Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award is to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to their communities as volunteer leaders.

Think of someone who:

- Has chaired a specific community service program which provided, or continues to provide, a benefit to the community.
- Chaired an Altrusan project or program (not a fundraiser) – they may have chaired a project sponsored in cooperation with another civic or charitable organization
- Lives or works in the community of the nominating Altrusa Club
- Is a true volunteer, not a paid staff member
- Does not have to be a Altrusa member
- There may be (1) nomination per Altrusa Club.

The Anna H. Settle Community Leadership Award will be presented at the International Convention in Quebec City.

A Few Notes To Remember

Projects receiving grants from the Foundation are eligible to apply.

This award has no impact on the Letha Brown Literacy Award, the Mamie L. Bass Service Award, or the Dr. Nina Fay Calhoun International Award; and nominating Clubs should continue to submit their project nominations if eligible for such awards.

Please visit the website for additional nominating criteria, <https://foundation.altrusa.org/grants-programs-and-awards/>

Our own District One Altrusan, Barbara Arafah of Central CT, received the Anna H. Settle Award at the last convention.

Notes from Editor

Next issue of DSB - March 2025 -

Deadline for submissions March 1, distribution March 15th

Membership - Please send to DSB a photo and short bio of all new members

- Using the altrusa.districtone.dsb@gmail.com really helps. The emails just don't get mixed in with personal emails. You can always reach me at cathybaybutt@gmail.com if you have questions etc.. but the news and photos should come under a separate email to the DSB account. please send your photos and "short" summaries by March 1st. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within a day or two.. please follow up .. in case it didn't come through, or in case I missed it. Thanks for working with me to make the newsletter as complete as possible.
- **Club Newsletters** Don't forget to send a copy of your club newsletter to Linda Ring. She will upload to the District One webpage. It's fun to read all the news from our district
- **New Club Newsletters** - If your club would like to start a club newsletter, we're happy to lend a hand. Perhaps think of a "bulletin" to start with. I've been asking our current newsletter editors what they use for formats, templates etc. I'd love to share if you are interested,
- **Facebook.** If your club uses Facebook.. please use a hashtag #altrusa #altrusadistrictone #altrusamembership #altrusaservice #altrusaliteracy This lets others search for updates and news from the clubs.. and makes it easier to share on the District One Facebook Page.
- **Technology workshops are being planned throughout conference, so bring your laptop and plan to attend one or all of these workshops. Check the scheduled to see when they are being presented**

Contact information

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Treasurer, District One
Diane O'Reilly
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Torrington, CT 06790

Save the Date

Altrusa Spring Conference - *May 2-5, 2025
Wellsworth Hotel and Conference Center
Southbridge, MA

International Convention
Quebec City
July 2025

Check to make sure your passport
is up to date.