

# The Altrusagram

Altrusa International Inc of Portland, Maine

PO Box 8834

Portland, ME 04104 USA

[www.altrusadistrict1.com](http://www.altrusadistrict1.com)

& follow the links to the Portland club's site



Vol. 11/12 No. 7

January 2012

## The 2011 - 2012 Board

President: Kim Keaney  
[keaneykim@hotmail.com](mailto:keaneykim@hotmail.com)

Vice President: Anita Chandler  
[achandler@maine.rr.com](mailto:achandler@maine.rr.com)

Secretary: Gail Mazzone  
[mestormy@maine.rr.com](mailto:mestormy@maine.rr.com)

Treasurer: Pam Lemieux  
[pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net](mailto:pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net)

Director: Caroline Cobb  
[carolinec@gwi.net](mailto:carolinec@gwi.net)

Director: Gini Link  
[glink@maine.rr.com](mailto:glink@maine.rr.com)

Immediate Past Pres: Sue E King  
[suelou1996@hotmail.com](mailto:suelou1996@hotmail.com)

Parliamentarian: Joanne Doherty  
[rdoh1244@myfairpoint.net](mailto:rdoh1244@myfairpoint.net)

## Committee Chairs

Communications: Ann Babbitt  
[ababbitt@maine.rr.com](mailto:ababbitt@maine.rr.com)

Finance: Pam Lemieux  
[pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net](mailto:pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net)

Membership: Theresa Mancini  
[terman@maine.rr.com](mailto:terman@maine.rr.com)

Service: Anita Chandler  
[achandler@maine.rr.com](mailto:achandler@maine.rr.com)

Social: Martha Gross  
[sfeps2005@yahoo.com](mailto:sfeps2005@yahoo.com)

## Upcoming Dates

Mon. 1/30 - Board Meeting 6:15  
at Kim Keaney's home

Wed. 2/1 - Deadline for World Book Night  
registration - info to come

Wed. 2/1 - Business Meeting 6:15  
at UNE Blewett Hall

Thu. 2/9 - Serving Supper Program  
4:30 at St. Peters Church

Sun. 2/12 - Chili & Chowder Challenge!  
Holiday Inn by the Bay

Wed. 2/15 - Program Meeting  
Fireside Inn - Exit 48

Mon. 3/5 - Board Meeting 6:15  
at Kim Keaney's home

Wed. 3/7 - Business Meeting 6:15  
at UNE Blewett Hall  
>Vote on 2012-2013 board<

Thu. 3/8 - Serving Supper Program  
4:30 at St. Peters Church

Cancellation policy for Program Meetings:  
Members have a standing reservation. To cancel  
call Joanne Doherty (773-7410) before noon of  
the Monday prior to the meeting.

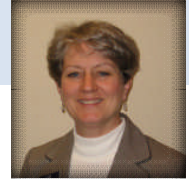
Members who miss but do not cancel will be  
charged for meals that were guaranteed.

Newsletter editor: Marie Pike - [pikerino2@aol.com](mailto:pikerino2@aol.com)

The deadline each month for Altrusagram articles  
is the end of day on the Friday after the program  
meeting.



# The Altrusagram



## President's Message

Happy New Year!

We have started the new year off with a bang. Our business meeting this month gave us the opportunity to taste test the food program at UNE and to consider it for our program meetings. The food was great and plentiful. District Governor Susannah Leslie joined us for that meeting and gave us an update on District news. I really enjoyed getting to know her better. Her knowledge and love of Altrusa are apparent in all she does. Our program meeting featured yet another District visitor. Denise Doyon, the District Brand Ambassador, joined us and provided an update on rebranding. Her presentation was great and what a treat to catch up with our dear friend.

We continue our whirlwind pace this year with the Chili Chowder Challenge right around the corner. Let's get the word out! Post posters, e-mail it to all your contacts, put it on facebook, tell family, friends and co-workers, and SELL TICKETS!

A healthy and happy 2012 to all.

Kim Keaney,  
President

### Highlights of the January 4th business meeting:

- Mid-year reports given.
- Nominating committee elected.
- Scott Marchildon, UNE, attended and spoke.
- District One Governor Susannah Leslie attended and spoke.
- Club voted to send \$100 to Boy Scouts and \$100 to Messengers of Hope with thank-you card for the Christmas party.
- Posters & tickets for Chili Chowder Challenge available. Need door prizes.
- Volunteer of the Year award will be presented at the May program meeting (installation).

### Mission Statement

Altrusa International, Inc. of Portland, Maine is a club of diverse professionals dedicated to providing service to our communities, focusing on literacy, fellowship and leadership development.

### Vision Statement

Altrusa: Leaders in service, expanding leadership opportunities and providing service to communities worldwide.



## The Altrusagram

### From the Finance Committee

#### **Chili Chowder Challenge on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012.**

Plans are moving along. Restaurants and judges are getting signed up.

Anyone interested in mailing CCC postcards or the poster to family and friends should see either Pam L or Gail.

Tickets are available for you to purchase or take to sell - contact Theresa.

To volunteer for the day of the event - contact Pam L.

We need door prize items - & need to know what they are right away - contact Marie.

This is our largest annual fundraiser and the entire club needs to support it for it to be a success.

The Chili Chowder Challenge is an opportunity to taste over 30 chilies and chowders, from local area restaurants, and then vote on your favorites. There will be a DJ playing music during the event and door prizes. To clear the palate after all the tasting, there is bread donated by the Big Sky Bakery and for dessert, ice cream. Yum!

Don't forget to mention the CCC to family and friends....often.

*Also  
the Bob Marley fundraiser will be  
April 22nd! More to come on that next month.*

### From the Communications Committee

As the speaker for our Program Meeting on January 18, we were very pleased to welcome Denise Doyon from the Biddeford-Saco Club. Denise, who has served as our District One Governor, is currently International's District One Brand Ambassador. Her talk included a lot of up-to-date information about the new Brand and about what's available on the Websites of International, District and our Portland club. You can check our Yearbook for the addresses.

### From the Social Committee

We will decorate for the Chili and Chowder event on February 12 and will need a little help with the balloons.

Plans for Altrusa's birthday party are in the works and we hope you will be pleasantly surprised and Ms. Arlene, we will need your expertise!

### From the Service Committee

The next date for the monthly service project, Serving Suppers at St Peters, is Thursday, February 9th. We will need 4-5 volunteers. A sign-up sheet will be available at the next business meeting.

### The Nominating Committee

The nominating committee was elected at the January business meeting and consists of: Sue E King (chair), Martha Donahue, and Martha Gross. They will present a slate of candidates for the 2012-2013 Board at the February 1st business meeting. Voting will be at the March 7th business meeting.



## The Altrusagram

### From the Service Committee

#### Update on our World Literacy Day Project - Books For the New Library in South Sudan

We shipped 34 cartons of new books to the Juba Youth Foundation in South Sudan on Dec 19th, with every hope but no guarantee of arrival, after leaving the U.S... After hearing horror stories of charitable shipments not arriving in other third world countries, and knowing that the South Sudan government makes it very difficult to obtain books if the procurer is not a government agency, we waited with trepidation for news that our \$2,000 investment was not in vain. And the good news is that the **books arrived** Jan 18th!! (So 'priority mail' that claims 6-10 business days took 2 months, but there were 3 U.S. holidays in that timeframe, and they DID actually deliver!!)

The construction of the library has been delayed due to heavy rains and subsequent mud, but there is good progress being made. Here is a picture of the foundation phase of construction of the building - sturdy brick will last a long time! The 2 rooms planned include a classroom and the 1 room library.



See the feature article in the January 2012 International Altrusan for Denise Martin's write-up of this service project!

### From the Service (Scholarship) Committee

At the January business meeting, an excellent buffet supper was provided by UNE, as a thank-you for our years of scholarship donations. Scott Marchildon, Assistant Vice President of Institutional Advancement at UNE, joined us for the meeting. Scott told us how grateful they were for our years of support and how the UNE students perform a lot of community service as well.

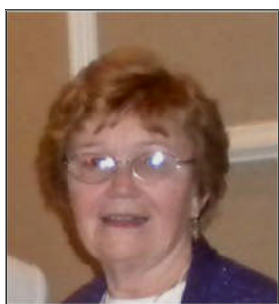
### From the Service (VOY) Committee

The list of organizations from whom we'll request nominations for the 2012 Volunteer of the Year will be available at the next business meeting. The request letters need to go out by Feb 27th. If you won't be at the meeting but want to suggest an organization, please contact Marie Pike.



## The Altrusagram

### DISTRICT ONE VISITS THE PORTLAND CLUB!



**Susannah Leslie**  
District One Governor, member of the Altrusa club  
of Plymouth, MA

Susannah joined us for our January 4th business meeting. She brought greetings from the District.

She informed us of what is going on at the District level and was interested in what we are doing. She shared the exciting news about the new club just being formed in the Greater Hartford area. It was very interesting to hear how this club, of younger women mostly, is taking a fresh, more flexible, approach to meeting dates and venues, even having children at their meetings to accommodate the members' needs.

Susannah mentioned the still-open District One Astra chair and asked for volunteers. She also mentioned that a host club for the 2012 fall workshop is still open.

She encouraged everyone to attend Spring Conference in Montpelier, VT, April 27th to 29th.

It was, as always, a great pleasure to have Susannah with us. Her enthusiasm for Altrusa is infectious!

**Denise Doyon**  
District One Brand Ambassador, former District  
One Governor (1992 - 1994), member of the  
Altrusa club of Biddeford-Saco, ME

Denise was our speaker at the January 18th program meeting. She talked about Rebranding, the survey that was done to look at what we needed, showed the new logo and described what the colors and lines mean. She spoke of the website plans for the future, of making some of our own items with the logo on it, and showed a bag with the logo and other items for sale.

Denise gave out order forms if we want to order items from International and handed out information about guidelines for the logo.

She also encouraged participation at Conference in Vermont.

Denise was charming and inspiring.

Some District One facts:  
3 countries  
18 clubs (soon to be 19!)  
about 425 members currently  
formed in 1956  
first Governor was from the Portland club



## The Altrusagram

Altrusa is an international non-profit organization, making our local communities better through leadership, partnership, and service. We are civic-minded people who strive to create better communities worldwide.

Next book club meeting is Tuesday, February 21st, *The Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford, at Joanne Doherty's.  
Come join the group!

### An Accent on Altrusa

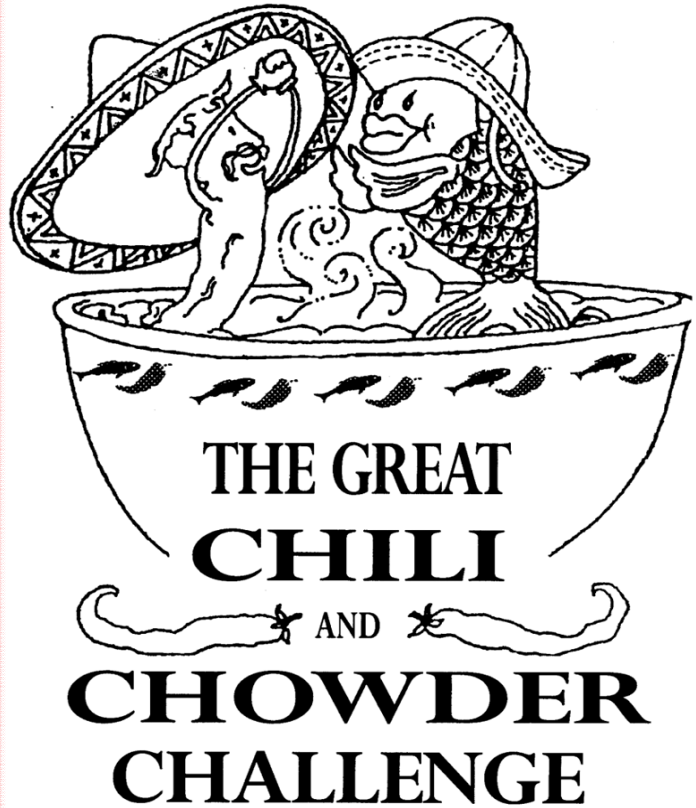
In 1977, Altrusa became the first volunteer service group to adopt literacy as the focus of its community activities.

### International Newsletters

Members receive 2 hard copy newsletters by mail per year as well as 10 electronic issues. If you would like to get the a paper copy of the electronic issues by mail the cost would be \$30/year. If you are interested, please call Latonya at 312-427-4410 ext 10

Happy Birthday to

Ann Babbitt - January 19th  
**Enjoy your day!**



Sunday, February 12th at the Holiday Inn by the Bay

Volunteer for the event, invite friends & family to come, sell tickets, get certificates for door prizes, there's something for everyone to do for this annual fundraiser!

### Future District & International Events

District One Spring Conference - April 27-29, 2012 - Montpelier, VT

District One Spring Conference - April 2013 - Bangor, ME

International Convention - July 2013 - Rotorua, New Zealand