



The Altrusagram

Altrusa International Inc of Portland, Maine
PO Box 8834
Portland, ME 04104 USA
www.altrusadistrict1.com

& follow the links to the Portland club's site

Vol. 11/12 No. 10

April 2012

The 2011 - 2012 Board

President: Kim Keaney
keaneykim@hotmail.com

Vice President: Anita Chandler
achandler@maine.rr.com

Secretary: Gail Mazzone
mestormy@maine.rr.com

Treasurer: Pam Lemieux
pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net

Director: Caroline Cobb
carolinec@gwi.net

Director: Gini Link
glink@maine.rr.com

Immediate Past Pres: Sue E King
suelou1996@hotmail.com

Parliamentarian: Joanne Doherty
rdoh1244@myfairpoint.net

Upcoming Dates

Mon. 4/30 - Board Meeting 6:15
at Kim Keaney's home

Wed. 5/2 - Business Meeting 6:15
at UNE Blewett Hall

Fri. 5/4 - ABC Program
West School

Tue. 5/8 - ABC Program
Reiche School

Thu. 5/10 - Serving Supper Program
4:30 at St. Peters Church

Mon. 5/14 - ABC Program
Ocean Avenue School

Wed. 5/16 - Installation of Officers
& 8th annual
Volunteer of the Year
presentation
Fireside Inn - Exit 48

Committee Chairs

Communications: Ann Babbitt
ababbitt@maine.rr.com

Finance: Pam Lemieux
pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net

Membership: Theresa Mancini
terman@maine.rr.com

Service: Anita Chandler
achandler@maine.rr.com

Social: Martha Gross
sfeps2005@yahoo.com

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.

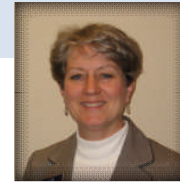
Newsletter editor: Marie Pike - pikerino2@aol.com

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



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President's Message



What a whirlwind week! Thanks to the Social Committee, our Altrusa Birthday Party gave us all color and make-up tips just in time for Theresa's wedding. She was a beautiful bride. Their reception was wonderful and full of a lifetime of friends and family. We finished off the week with a ton of laughs at the Bob Marley fundraiser. There wasn't a dry eye in the house. And then, Conference is right around the corner. Thanks to those who are representing our club and to those who have submitted for awards and photos.

A lot of excitement in Altrusa as my term is winding down. I thank everyone for the opportunity to serve, I have really enjoyed it.

from Kim Keane

Highlights of the April 4th business meeting:

- Karen V, Pam S & Gail M working on the Bucket for conference.
 - Bob Marley fundraiser update, to sell 50/50 tickets at event also.
 - Orientation to be scheduled.
 - Vol. of Year award update - to be presented at May installation.
- Maine Reads Festival of the Book volunteer work reported on - a great success.
- Discussed a contribution to Portland Schools nutritional program for children not covered by federal programs.
 - Report on books distributed to the Head Start program.
- Discussed applying for grant sponsored by Arlene H's organization.
- World Book Night event coming up, plans to distribute books discussed.
- Literacy and Food program training "Edible Education" to be attended by Anita C and one other Altrusan.

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.



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From the Finance Committee

ANNUAL DUES are Due by May 31st

It is that time of year again. Annual Dues of \$100 are due by May 31st.

As a reminder, the breakdown of the dues:

International	\$ 55.00
District One	\$ 15.00
Local Club	\$ 30.00
TOTAL ANNUAL DUES	\$100.00

If you need a receipt let me know and I'll prepare one for you. Please pay your dues at your earliest convenience.

Thanks,
Pam Lemieux
Treasurer

From the Service (VOY) Committee

Please be sure to attend the May 16th program meeting where, along with the installation of our 2012-2013 board (hurrah to them all), we will be honoring our **8th Volunteer of the Year**. Come prepared to be WOWED by all that this person does for the worthy organization she volunteers for. You will be impressed. The committee certainly was.

As in previous years, though, it was very difficult to choose between so many wonderful, dedicated nominees. We thank the thirteen organizations who submitted names to us (yes 13!!).

Committee members were Joanne D, Martha G, Pam L, Judith R and Marie P.

From the Service Committee

ABC program dates coming up:

- Friday, April 27th - East End School
- Friday, May 4th - West School
- Tuesday, May 8th - Reiche School
- Monday, May 14th - Ocean Ave School
- Monday, June 4th - Riverton School

See Martha D to sign up.

For the Communications Committee

Marion McDonald is home and recovering and hasn't landed back in the hospital for over a week. This is fabulous.

Ann B

Bob Marley Benefit Concert Had Everyone in Stitches

On Sunday night, April 22nd, many Portland Altrusans, and friends of Altrusa, attended the Bob Marley Benefit Concert at the Comedy Connection in Portland. The opening comedian, Krazy Jake, got the audience warmed up and finished off his bit demonstrating dance moves. I particularly enjoyed a dance he called the 'snow blower'. I think I've got the moves down! When Bob took the stage he had the audience in stitches with his comedic insight into life as it is in Maine. He entertained us for over an hour. With the number of belly laughs, I'm sure our stomach and facial muscles got a work out last night! Bob covered many topics from family life and kids to his experiences on the road. He even took time to give sage advice to a table of young single men located just to the right of the stage. I hope they remember what they are 'suppose to say', and not the examples of what they are not suppose to say (even though that was funnier).

At the end of the evening, Bob spoke about Altrusa's mission and generously offered to sell his latest CD/DVD of the Guinness Record Breaking Show (a \$20 value) to members of the audience for \$10, with all of the proceeds going to Altrusa. THANKS BOB!!

Also, our thanks go to Marcia Marley for arranging and managing this fun Altrusa fund raiser. We are so lucky she raised such a kind, generous.....and funny kid.

Pam L



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From the Social Committee

Altrusa's social season culminated in a festive Birthday Party at Fireside Inn. The program "Visibility" was presented by Carie Costello, a lovely energetic woman. She shared wearing the correct colors for your skin tone, gave an overview of skin care and of course make-up! Scarves are definitely in as well as the color tangerine. The center also offers a wide selection of unique jewelry pieces. Hair specialist, Stuart Taylor is also a member of Visibility.

As members of the social committee for the past few years we have enjoyed sharing events and celebrations with you. Thank-you for your support and positive feed back.

WATCH the SUSAN F. SMILEBOX ! (A picture is worth a thousand words.)

Happy Springtime!

Martha Donahue
Susan F. King
Gini Link
Rae Clark-McGrath
Martha Gross





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Books to Head Start

Portland Altrusans Anita C, Martha D, Susan F and Marie P met at Reed School (also known as the Book Vault) to donate books to the Headstart Program. Louise Marsden, VP Child and Family Services director, (2nd from left) was most appreciative and shared how the books will help the organization stretch its tight budget.



Altrusa Participates in World Book Night

World Book Night began in 2011 in the U.K. as a way to instill the love of books and reading in people. Publishers provide free paperbacks for volunteers to give away. April 23rd was chosen because it is the UNESCO Day of the Book, designated in honor of Shakespeare and Cervantes who both died on April 23rd in 1616.

Longfellow Books was the source of information about this new event. They were also the distribution point for the books. Our thanks to Chris & Stuart at Longfellow and their staff, for all the work they did to make this night happen in the Portland area.

We selected two sites for distributing the books that had been allocated to us. Some members went to West School to share the books with Portland Adult Education students. Other members were at St Peter's where they also made a bag meal, in partnership with the Wayside Agency, to give with the books. In addition to the WBN books, we gave children's books from our inventory to families and to the PAE library.

The enthusiasm and gratitude of those receiving books was heartwarming. At least 60 people got books directly that night and many more will benefit from remaining books left at the sites for later distribution.



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The Buzz

by Joanne Doherty

Two months ago, we messed up the **Lemieux** nephews and their significant others. Last month when telling about **Theresa's** surprise shower, we omitted her dearest and best friend of many years, **Betty Donahue**. **Betty** was among the well-wishers at her shower. We apologize for the omission. Great to see **Bev K** "circulating" again. She has had a couple of day surgeries to remove "sludge" from her the arteries in her legs. Heard she had to stay a little longer than a day, too! **Marion M** continues to make steady progress from her recent illness.

Maine Reads, annual *Festival of the Books* was a rounding success. Our own **Denise M** headed up the volunteer contingent making the two day event an interesting and fun experience. **Denise** kept the team advised with reminders and updates and held a one hour training session for the volunteers. Each volunteer knew where she was supposed to be and what her responsibilities were. Friday night at the cocktail reception, "dressed to the nines" and manning the registration desk were **Marie P, Pam L, Susan FK** and **Anita C**. **Sue EK** was providing information and collecting ticket money on the first level. **Joanne D** chauffeured **Charles Shields** on Friday and Saturday, and on Saturday, with her friend **Barbara Harvey**, covered conference rooms where the authors presented their books and or literary styles to very receptive audiences. Every session was filled to overflowing and all were very well received. **Karen V, Marcia M, Martha D, Pam L** and **Anita C** covered the information desk and sold raffles. Our book club friend, Mary Baumer also volunteered to help. Of course, **Denise** was everywhere.

Rita H and **Helena J** have been spotted all over town recently; out shopping one day and having their hair done another day. More recently they were seen dining at DiMillo's Floating Restaurant while celebrating **Helena's 90th** birthday.

Just when you think they couldn't come up with a new way to celebrate the Altrusa birthday, our Social Committee does it again. **Susan F, Martha D, Martha G** and **Gini L** themed our party to "pamper" ourselves. The tables were bedecked with colorful cupcake favors (face cloths designed as cupcakes), loofahs, foot brushes and scrubbies. Our guest speaker, **Carie Costello** shared her colorization theories with us. Told us what was hot for the next season and how best to use our skin tones to our best advantage. She also explained many of the beauty products of today. We heard about a *serum* to keep the *mature* women dewy and less wrinkled. After dinner; twenty eight Altrusans and their guests shared a beautifully decorated cake; the cake top decoration matched the flowers on the serving plates. As you may remember, we met **Katie Kline** at the Festival of the Book and she attended our birthday party. We are looking forward to seeing a lot more of you, **Katie**. **Tavia Wirths** came to the party with **Rita H**. **Maria Rickett** and **Barbara Harvey** were **Joanne's** guests.

Denise, Rita and **Joanne** reviewed the vocational applications for this year. In addition to the Voc requests, there were thirteen submissions for Altrusa's annual Volunteer of the Year Award. **Marie** and her team of judges, **Martha G, Joanne, Pam L** and **Judith** reviewed the submissions of some very worthy candidates and the final results were very close. The recipient and his/her agency will be invited to our May program meeting to receive the award.

April 20th was **THE** wedding. Two hundred-ish close friends and family joined **Theresa M** and **Lew Smith** to celebrate their nuptials. Prior to the "big party", the bride and groom had a family ceremony at St. Louis Church. The bride, dressed in royal blue, was accompanied down the aisle by her sons **John** and **Billy** and daughter **Bernadette** was her mother's Matron of honor. **Lew's** sons were his "best men". Love was in the air as guests watched the happy couple and their children blend their two families.

Bob Marley's benefit was hilarious! From **Jake** (the warm-up) through **Bob's** gig, Altrusans and friends were laughing, nonstop. It always fun to watch the crowd's reaction as joke after joke rolls out of his mouth. Thanks **Bob** for your generosity and your humor!!

Stay well, Love, Mother Goose



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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.

Happy Birthday to

Martha G - May 5th
Enjoy your day!

Congratulations to Theresa Mancini and Lew Smith, wed on April 20th. We all wish them much happiness.



Next book club meeting is Tuesday, May 22nd. We're reading The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins. Come join the group!

Altrusa of Quincy's upcoming fundraiser
A. J. Smooth & Whitney Judith
(from the Berkley School of Music)

Songs by Barry White, The Platters, Donna Summers, Whitney Houston and much more

Saturday May 19, 2012
At the South Shore Viking Association
410 Quincy Avenue Braintree, Ma
7:00pm - 10:00pm
Tickets: \$20.00

Refreshments * Raffles * Coffee * Bar is open for purchasing other beverages

The Sanford-Springvale Altrusa club is selling a raffle calendar. Just \$10 enters you every day of May for wonderful prizes. This small but busy club does wonderful service projects with the funds they raise. Let's support our Altrusa sisters. Marie P has sent the calendar out to everyone with email. Anyone wanting to see the calendar or to buy one, feel free to call Marie for more information.

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