



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. 12/13 No. 1 June 2012

Message from the President

"I see trees of green and red roses, too." It's summer in Maine at its very best! Time to welcome family and friends, celebrate the birth of our country and for members of Altrusa to renew and refresh.

As we make plans to build our community in the coming year remember to build time for each other and those you love. The best tools we have are happy, healthy hearts, strong giving hands and open and curious minds combined with the knowledge that we are leaders who can make our community better!

Our first summer gift to ourselves as a group is the annual Peaks Island dinner August first then we'll meet again at summer retreat at Camp Doherty on Sebago Lake August 17 and 18.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at these special summer events.

Happy days,
Anita

The Board

President: Anita Chandler
achandler@maine.rr.com

Vice President: Martha Donahue
martiliz@aol.com

Secretary: Marie Pike
pikerino2@aol.com

Treasurer: Pam Lemieux
pamela.lemieux@myfairpoint.net

Director: Caroline Cobb
carolinec@zwi.net

Director: Carolyn Holman
clh@maine.rr.com

Parliamentarian: Judith Reidman
jreidman@maine.rr.com

Summer Dates

Wed, 6/27 Communications Comm. meeting

Tue, 7/10 Service Comm. meeting
5:30 at Pam Szalajeski's

Thu, 7/12 Wayside Community Meal
4:30-ish at St Peter's

Tue, 7/31 Committee budget requests are due

Wed, 8/1 Dinner on Peak's Island - see inside

Wed, 8/8 Finance Comm. meeting
6:00 at Pam Lemieux's

Thu, 8/9 Wayside Community Meal
4:30-ish at St Peter's

Fri/Sat, 8/17-18 Summer Retreat - details to come



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Highlights of the June 6th business meeting:

- Committee assignments announced.
- Orientation to be held Wednesday, June 20th, with a potluck supper. Sign-up sheet was passed around.
- Members voted to continue meeting structure and locations as they were this past year: business meeting at UNE and program meetings at Fireside Inn.
 - Committees met briefly post-meeting.
- President Anita has appointed Marie Pike to be secretary, open due to the resignation of Gail Mazzone.

Changes in membership:

Not renewing membership for the 2012-2013 year are: Kim Keaney, Gini Link, Gail Mazzone and Martie Tompkins (now an emeritus member). We will miss them all, wish them the best, and hope someday they may come back!

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE 2012 - 2013 YEAR

COMMUNICATIONS

Ann Babbitt, Chairman
 Carolyn Holman
 Marion McDonald
 Denise Martin (Intnl
 Communications Chair)

SOCIAL

Susan F King, Chairman
 Rae Clark-McGrath
 Martha Donahue
 Katie Klein

FINANCE

Pam Lemieux, Chairman
 Caroline Cobb
 Joanne Doherty
 Marcia Marley
 Judith Reidman

MEMBERSHIP

Theresa Mancini, Chairman
 Martha Gross
 Sue E King
 Helena Jensen
 Trish Maxim
 Karen Valley

SERVICE

Denise Martin, Chairman
 Fran Dyro
 Rita Hammond
 Arlene Hanson
 Bev Knudsen
 Marie Pike
 Heather Poole
 Pam Szalajeski



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From the Communications Committee:

The Committee will be meeting on June 27th to go over our budget, goals and plans for the year. We will also be discussing our program meeting.

From the Social Committee:

The committee would LOVE ideas for the Christmas party..... if anyone has a thought we're open for suggestions.
Email Susan F. at kings@maine.rr.com

From the Membership Committee:

I would like to personally thank all the members who came to the Orientation for the wonderful pot luck food and all the help before and after... I enjoyed having everyone and I hope our newest members learned a few things about Altrusa and its members. *Theresa*

From the Membership Committee:

The Membership Committee hosted the annual Orientation/Re-orientation meeting on June 20th with a pot luck supper at the home of Theresa Mancini. Fifteen members were in attendance for a lively discussion of our many service projects.

From the Finance Committee:

The Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, August 8th at 6:00PM at Pam Lemieux's house to pull together a proposed budget for 2012-2013. All committees have been asked to submit their budgets to the Finance Committee by July 31st.

The committee also met to discuss the 2012-2013 budget request. We need to make this a strong building year. Please be diligent this summer and find new members.

From the Service Committee:

Please be sure to return your service survey to the committee as soon as possible. We will be meeting on Tuesday, July 10th (5:30 at Pam Szalajeski's) to come up with a plan and budget to propose to you, the members, in September; we need the surveys to make sure our proposal reflects the members' interests and priorities.

From the Service Committee:

People are hungry in the summer too! So please don't forget that we'll be at St Peter's the 2nd Thursday of July & August for the Wayside Community Meal. Please try to join us for this easy and gratifying community service project. If you can arrive between 4:30 and 5:00 and stay until 7:00 or so, please call or email Anita Chandler to volunteer. (If you're free any other Thursday Anita & her church crew may be able to use you that night too.)



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Scholarship Winners

(Drum roll please)

From the higher education institutions:

UNE - *Nicole Herrick*, a student in the Dental Hygiene class of 2013

SMCC - *Andrew Stromsky*, a sophomore studying Criminology.

USM - *Rachel Miller*, a Liberal Studies major in the Teachers for Elementary and Middle Schools program, pursuing K-8 teacher education.

From the local Portland public high schools:

DHS - *Josephine Vincent*, planning to attend USM for Art Education, in Sept

PHS - *Kelsey Coyne*, planning to attend UMO for Nursing, in Sept

CBHS - *Grania Power*, planning to attend Mount Holyoke in the spring of 2013, taking a semester off to study organic farming in Europe this fall. Major is undecided but possibly Linguistic Anthropology - now that's a mouthful!!

Our sole non-traditional award winner:

Vocational Award - *Ellen Thayer*, an artist starting a greeting card business of her soon to be trademarked "Love Maine" - 42 naturally formed heart shaped stones in the shape of the state of Maine. She is putting the cards in stores and used the funding to print the cards.

CONGRATULATIONS to all of this year's scholarship winners!

Peaks Island Boat & Dinner

Join the fun on Wednesday, August 1st at The Peaks Island House. The Casco Bay Lines Ferry leaves Portland at 5:35PM and the fare is \$7.70. If you are going, please call Sue E King at 879-2515 so she can let the restaurant know how many to plan for.

Note: there is an island taxi available for anyone needing it. Call 518-0000 to make a taxi reservation.

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Retreat

F After skipping a year it's back!! The *almost*-annual summer retreat will be Friday evening and Saturday, August 17th & 18th. Save the date for the fun, fellowship, food & all things Altrusa at Joanne Doherty's camp.

More details will be sent out soon.



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The Buzz

by Joanne Doherty

Marion McDonald, looking fit; **Katie Klein** and **Rae Clark-McGrath**, new members; the **Susans – King**; the **Marthas - Donahue** and **Gross**; as well as the **Pamelas - Lemieux** and **Szalajeski** were among the Altrusans who enjoyed the pot luck fare at **Theresa Mancini's** home as we held the *real* Orientation/ Re-orientation meeting. (The *fake* one was the bridal shower for Theresa Mancini at Joanne's home.) **Anita Chandler**, **Marie Pike**, **Trish Maxim**, **Karen Valley** and **Joanne Doherty** also shared their Altrusa knowledge; asked and answered questions.

Pam Szalajeski has been enjoying 'Grandmother Time' lately. She accompanied Grandson **Zachary's** class on a school field trip to Peaks Island one day and another day she and husband **Ed** treated him to a day of fun at the Old Orchard Beach amusement park. The Maine Women's Fund recently named our own **Carolyn Holman**, "Woman of the Year". **Arlene Hanson** beat her own best time in the Father's Day 5k race. A rain-soaked **Karen Valley** passed out free books to children at the annual Westbrook Together Days. We heard **Katie Klein** was a volunteer at Portland's annual flower show. **Denise Martin** and daughter **Kelly** are headed to Yosemite National Park for a vacation. **Joanne Doherty** and husband **Bob** are entertaining his sisters **Mary Usher** from Florida and **Liz Black** from Standish. **Joanne's** granddaughters **Madeline** and **Briella Doherty** also spent a day with the Aunts and **Mia** and **Papa**.

The Lion by **Nelson DeMille** was this month's featured Book Club read. **Marcia Marley** brought her sister-in-law **Pauline Marley** to Book Club. **Pauline** is doing her annual 'swing through New England' visiting family and friends before she returns to Florida. Along with other Altrusans **Anita Chandler**, **Martha Donahue**, **Joanne Doherty**, **Pamela Lemieux**, **Marie Pike**, **Bev Knudsen** and **Denise Martin**, our friends **Jeannine Wilson** (former Altrusan), **Rhonda Gioia** and **Mary Baumer** shared the sumptuous meal prepared by **Trish Maxim** as we discussed the book. The list of books for next year's Book Club were chosen.

Anita Chandler, **Martha Donahue**, **Pam Szalajeski**, **Sue E. King** and **Trish Maxim** volunteered at the Barron Center on Tuesday evening at the annual Picnic for patients & families. Due to the unpredictable weather this week, it was held in-doors (only the 3rd time in the past 15 years). It was still a huge success.

Stay well,

Love,
Mother Goose



Friends of the Walker Memorial Library: Jane Elwell, Mike Elwell and Fran Jensen handing out books donated by Portland Altrusa to the kids of Westbrook in the pouring rain at the annual community gathering.



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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

- 7/4 - Marie Pike
 - 7/7 - Marcia Marley
 - 7/10 - Susan F King
 - 8/3 - Denise Martin
 - 8/21 - Heather Poole
 - 8/24 - Sue E King
- Enjoy your day!

The new Greater Hartford Club was chartered on June 23rd !



New club President Violet Sims with District One Governor Susannah Leslie and Northeastern CT club member Gay Douglas who organized the new club.

Congratulations to them!

The book club is on summer hiatus - but it doesn't mean we're not reading! Stretch out in the hammock and read Barbara Kingsolver's The Lacunae this summer and then join us in September when we reconvene.

Hello Marie,
 Something for your members to think about if coming to Rotorua for Convention: Nelson Club membership offers our sister club members billeted accommodation if visiting Nelson before or after Convention. So that we can plan our own travel, if your members contact me when they know the approximate dates they'd be in Nelson and whether or not they'd want a double or twin room, then I can match them with a member.
 So, onwards and upwards to Convention!
 In Altrusa love, Barbara Caygill
 Past Governor District Fifteen and Nelson Club member

Future District & International Events

- District One Workshop - November 3, 2012 - Nashua, NH
- District One Conference - April 25-28, 2013 - Bangor, ME
- International Convention - July 26-29, 2013 - Rotorua, New Zealand