



# The Altrusagram

Altrusa International Inc of Portland, Maine  
PO Box 8834  
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[www.altrusadistrict1.com](http://www.altrusadistrict1.com)

& follow the links to the Portland club's site

Vol. 12/13 No. 3 September 2012

## The 2012 - 2013 Board

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

## a message from the President

What a wonderful way to welcome a new season, we're on Facebook, and we're liked – thanks so much Katie!

The seeds of summer are surely being harvested as we complete our first month of the new Altrusa year. A well attended and busy business meeting was held at UNE with all of our committees deep into their work and our budget completed.

A program meeting and dinner honoring those organizations and individuals that are such an integral part of all that we do was held on the 19<sup>th</sup>. There has been tremendous feedback regarding the scope of all that Altrusa does in the community, not to mention the great food that was served! The informational posters were a hit, each one depicting the people and projects that are so important to us. I so appreciate all that each and every one of our members did to make this such a successful evening.

More good news: Ron Adams was successful at the City Council meeting and is now planning for the long awaited new home for the Portland Public Schools Nutrition Program. Ann Babbitt was a Gold Medal winner in the triathlon at the Maine Senior Games and Arlene Hanson was a winner in the Trails to Ales Road Race (ask her what the prize was!)

“There are only two ways to live your life. One is a miracle. The other is as if everything is.” Albert Einstein Members of Altrusa create miracles!

*Anita*





# The Altrusagram

## Upcoming Dates

**Mon, 10/1** Board Meeting  
6:00 Anita Chandler's

**Wed, 10/3** Business Meeting  
6:15 UNE Blewett Hall

**Thu, 10/11** Wayside Community Meal  
4:30-ish St Peter's

**Sat, 10/13** BAM Book Fair  
at Books A Million bookstore  
see details inside

**Wed, 10/17** Program Meeting  
6:15 Fireside Inn

**Sat, 10/27** Make A Difference Day  
Westbrook Community Center  
see details inside

**Sat, 11/3** District One Workshop  
Nashua, NH  
see details inside

## Notes from the September 5th Business Meeting

- Proposed budget presented and discussed. Will be voted on at October business meeting.
- Klink bottle bags passed out - new fundraiser for operating account.
  - No Empty Bowl event this year.
- Vote passed to continue all three higher education scholarships annually but in smaller amounts.
  - A \$5,000 grant has been applied for which, if granted, will be used to buy multi-language books for the schools.
- We gave books to the Root Cellar for our Literacy Day Project.
  - Vote passed to set up a website as a vehicle for organizations to requests books from us. Denise M to set it up, Service committee to monitor requests.
    - Make a Difference Day, October 27th, event discussed.
- BAM "book fair" fundraiser for foundation account discussed. Oct 13th possible date.
- Vote passed to set up a Facebook page. Katie K volunteered to do this.
  - Ad hoc committee (Judith R, Pam L & Katie K) formed to review and propose updates to Policies & Procedures & Bylaws.

\* \* \* \* \*

Cancellation policy for Program Meetings:  
Members have a standing reservation.  
To cancel call Joanne Doherty (730-1479)  
before noon of the Monday prior to the meeting.  
Members who miss but do not cancel will be  
charged for meals that were guaranteed.

The 2012 - 2013 budget will be voted on at the October 3rd business meeting. Please contact Pam Lemieux if you missed the September business meeting and would like a copy of the proposed budget that was presented at that meeting.

### 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 Service Committee

Soon we will have a new website, at [www.PortlandAltrusaGivesBooks.com](http://www.PortlandAltrusaGivesBooks.com) (not case sensitive) which will be a go-to place for community requests of books from our current inventory. Once it is up and running later this month, you are encouraged to send any non-profit organization to the website for more information on tapping into our book inventory. All requests will be reviewed by the Service Committee during monthly meetings, so you should advise any requester about the timetable.

Until the website is functional, all requests should go through the Service Committee verbally, as we want to maintain good record keeping about our inventory and our giving. At this back to school season our inventory is unfortunately low until another Book Drive happens at BAM, so we are not marketing too heavily until more books arrive, probably after the holidays.

### From the Membership Committee

**TWO** membership applications have been received:

**Mary Campbell** lives in Scarborough and is a director and instructor at Opportunity for Change. Mary, who has attended many Altrusa events, is sponsored by Sue E King.

**Brittany White** also lives in Scarborough. She is an assistant manager of the Verizon Wireless store in Brunswick. Her sponsor (and grandmother!) is Patricia Maxim. Brittany attended our September 19th Supper at Six event.

### From the Communications Committee

Thanks to member Katie Klein, we are now on Facebook. The yearbook is nearing completion, and our hope is to distribute it at the October business meeting. The Committee will be meeting on September 29th.

### From the Service Committee

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

At the last business meeting the Service Committee, which oversees the administration of scholarships, proposed reduced amounts of scholarship giving, but recommended maintaining the format of giving to all 3 post secondary institutions annually, rather than reverting back to the tri-year giving cycle of the past. These changes were affirmed by vote of the membership and will be changed permanently in our Local Policies and Procedures governing document.

The new scholarship giving is now annually:

UNE - \$1,200 "Altrusa"  
USM - \$1,200 "Altrusa"  
SMCC - \$1,000 (2 \$500 awards) "Altrusa"  
PHS - \$500 "Alice Whittier Award"  
DHS - \$500 "Mary L. Stiles Award"  
CBHS - \$500 "Connie Rickett Award"  
Vocational - \$800 (multiple recipients potential)  
"Blanche Mack Memorial"

All scholarship winners are designated by the recipient school, based on pre-established criteria that we have outlined, except the Vocational non-traditional scholarship, which is selected by committee, from the candidates sent by Women, Work and Community.

### From the Ad Hoc Grant Committee

Eight Altrusans met at Arlene Hanson's to hash out details of the \$5,000 grant request submitted to MDRT Foundation. Nancy Boucher, a VISTA volunteer with the school systems, was instrumental in helping us determine a project for the funds. If received, we will be buying multi-lingual books for the schools. Thank-you to all who worked on this: Arlene H, Anita C, Martha D, Martha G, Carolyn H, Bev K, Trish M and Marie P.



## The Altrusagram

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### From the Service Committee

##### **Make A Difference Day - October 27th**

Our 2012 Make A Difference Day project is a "Books and Breakfast" event at the Westbrook Community Center the morning of October 27th. The 200 or so Westbrook first graders will be taking home notices inviting them and their parents to come by the center to have some breakfast, hear a story, make a book mark and choose a book to take home.

We will have a sign up sheet at the October business meeting for this sure-to-be-fun event. Please invite friends to work with us that day!

#### **What is Make A Difference Day?**

Make A Difference Day is the most encompassing national day of helping others -- a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. Created by USA WEEKEND Magazine, this annual event that takes place on the fourth Saturday of every October. In 2011, at least 3 million people cared enough about their communities to volunteer on that day, accomplishing thousands of projects in hundreds of towns.

As a united organization, Altrusa International has participated in MADD activities since 1997, impacting millions of people around the world.

International's hope is that the advance promotion and implementation of the MADD activity will double as a membership campaign. The goal is to bring in the largest number of new members the organization has ever seen at one time. This year, Make A Difference Day will not only help millions of people but will help showcase to prospective members what Altrusa is all about.

#### From the Finance Committee

##### **BAM Book Fair – Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**

Denise Martin is negotiating with Books-A-Million to hold the Book Fair for Altrusa on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. Since we are 99% sure it will be approved, all Portland Altrusans are asked to reserve that date.

We will be looking for Altrusan's to volunteer to sit at a table inside the store and inform store patrons about Altrusa, pass out coupons and ask them to support us by simply presenting the coupon to the cashier when they check out. While the coupon that we give them will not result in a discount on their purchase, it also will not increase the cost of their purchase. Also, it doesn't prevent them from using any discount coupons they were planning on using.

It should not be difficult to get people to take the coupons and we will have a great opportunity to speak to a lot of people about Altrusa, who we are, and what we do. The table will have Altrusa Brochures, perhaps membership applications, and displays.

The BAM store hours on Saturday are 9AM to 11PM. We need to have coverage for this 14 hour period. If we break it into 2 hour increments, and plan to have 2 Altrusans at each session, we only need 14 volunteers to participate. The first team will need to do the set up with the materials and the last team needs to breakdown and clean up. The Finance Committee will have a sign up sheet to pass around at our next business meeting. If you can't make the meeting and want to secure a slot, please contact Pam Lemieux.

In addition to passing out coupons on the day of the event Altrusans will be asked to send e-mails to family and friends with the coupon attached, asking them to go buy a book, or two, at BAM on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. We need to use whatever means we have to distribute the coupons and get the word out.



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## "SUPPER AT SIX"

On September 19th Altrusa of Portland hosted "Supper at Six" as an expression of gratitude to our many supporters. There was a wonderful buffet of appetizers, salads, entrees and desserts, the presentation of awards, and much mingling and laughter.



**Honorees:**

- All Star Embroidery
- Big Sky Bread Company
- Bob Marley
- Books A Million
- Coffee By Design
- Curtis "Motown" Haines
- Dick Clark
- Dodge The Florist
- Holiday Inn by the Bay
- Izzy's Cheesecake
- Mary Franklin
- Peter Stead
- Portland Public School Nutrition Program
- Skillins Greenhouses
- The Comedy Connection
- Wayside Food Program
- WMTW
- Y100.9 WYNZ





# 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.



Pam L - 10/1  
Fran D - 10/15  
Rita H - 10/16  
Pam S - 10/23  
Enjoy your day!

## DISTRICT ONE WORKSHOP 2012

*"The New Faces of Volunteerism"*

Saturday, November 3, 2012

COURTYARD AT MARRIOTT

220 SOUTHWOOD DRIVE, NASHUA, NH

Registration - 8:00 - 8:30 am

Workshop - 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Sponsored by

DISTRICT ONE & THE MERRIMACK VALLEY CLUB

Early-Bird Registration - \$35.00 (postmarked by October 15th)

Regular Registration - \$40.00 (postmarked after October 15th)

Please try to register 2 weeks before the date of the Workshop (October 20th)

*There will be a free Spring Conference registration drawn from the workshop early-bird registrations!*

For hotel reservations call:

MARRIOTT RESERVATIONS

1-800-321-2211 OR (603)-880-9100

On or Before Tuesday, October 2, 2012

*To secure the discounted rate of \$89.00 + tax per double room identify yourself as Altrusa.*



# Like

our Facebook page is up at

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Altrusa-International-Portland-Maine-Club/433680620016995>

Next BOOK CLUB meeting is Tuesday, October 23rd at Marie Pike's home. We're discussing Steve Jobs by Walter Issacson. Everyone is welcome..

### 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

District One Conference - April 23-27, 2014 - Bermuda