



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, or

www.altrusaportlandgivesbooks.org

May 2015

The 2015 - 2016 Board

President: Pam Lemieux
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Vice President: Pamela Szalajeski
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Secretary: Patricia Maxim
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Treasurer: Marie Pike
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Director: Karen Valley
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Director: Geraldine Dongo
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Immed. Past Pres. Anita Chandler
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Parliamentarian: Judith Reidman
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Committee Chairpersons

Communications: Marcia Marley
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Finance: Marie Pike
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Membership: Martha Gross
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Service: Anita Chandler
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Social: Katie Klein
katie72925@gmail.com

President's Message

Portland Altrusans,

What a wonderful Program Meeting we had in May! It was nice to see so many of you were able to attend the meeting. It was a special meeting for a few reasons. First we had the Volunteer of the Year Program, where we honored Marilyn Goodreau, for her forty years of service at the Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals. We learned that Marilyn has served this organization in many different capacities. She's done everything from mucking out the horse stalls to being Chair of the Board of Directors. Now in her 80's, she still attends to the animals at the farm on an almost daily basis. She is an inspiration for all of us.

After the VOY guests left the meeting, we proceeded to install the club's officers for the upcoming year. Joanne Doherty presided over the Installation ceremony. She kept to my theme of 'Service is the Spice of Altrusa', by relating qualities of certain spices to the various officer positions. Joanne enlisted the help of our District One guest, Lois Bloomer. Joanne and Lois encouraged us to follow these specific traits as we serve on the board. I know I certainly will try to follow through on their advice....and the gift of basil will go well in my next spaghetti sauce!

Finally, we wound up the meeting with a few words from Lois Bloomer, District One's Second Vice Governor. The club decided to honor Lois with a gift to the Altrusa International Foundation in her name, instead of a hostess gift.

It sounds like we are winding up the year, but not so fast. At the June Business Meeting we will be hearing the Year End Reports from all Committee Chairs. In addition, we will have an opportunity to hear about the various High School Scholarship Awards which will have been presented before our June meeting. Also, there will be a discussion and vote on our venue for the Business Meeting next year. At this time we are considering two locations, a conference room at Keller Williams Realty located on Sewall St, off Congress or St Peter's Church Hall located off Washington Av. Each location has positive and negative factors to consider. As for the program meeting venue, it appears that the Fireside Inn will remain our preferred location. We have no other suggestions on

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Upcoming Dates

Mon, 6/1 Board Meeting
6:00pm Pam Lemieux's house

Wed, 6/3 Business Meeting
Year End Reports Presented
6:15pm St Peter's

Thu, 6/11 Serving Supper
4:30-7:00 St Peter's

Wed, 6/17 Fundraiser Brainstorming
Session & Potluck Dinner
open to everyone
6:15pm St Peter's

Sat, 6/20 Orientation
10:00 - 2:00 Joanne's camp



(We're may be on break but watch for upcoming summer service projects - some fun ones are being planned)

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

July 17 - 20
Kansas City, MO

President's Message continued

the table. As you can see, we are not adjourned for the summer yet. Please attend the June Business Meeting on Wednesday, June 3rd to let your voice be heard.

Finally, we don't have a 'normal' program meeting planned for June 17th. Instead it will be a very informal get together at St Peter's Church Hall to 'brainstorm' how to raise funds for Altrusa. Members are asked to bring pot luck food, but don't overdo it. Remember, you will be taking home all that isn't eaten!

Until next month, take care,
Pam

"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving."

— [Albert Einstein](#)

Service is the spice of Altrusa!

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 Membership Committee

It was nice seeing so many familiar Altrusans at our May program meeting. RaeClark-McGrath's guest was delightful. Dee Gardner Lives in Hallowell with her Chocolate Lab and is a favorite aunt to four loving nephews. Dee is a graduate of the University of Maine and presently works for their foundation. She works from the Planned Giving Office in Falmouth but travels throughout the state. She is very much interested in joining Altrusa.

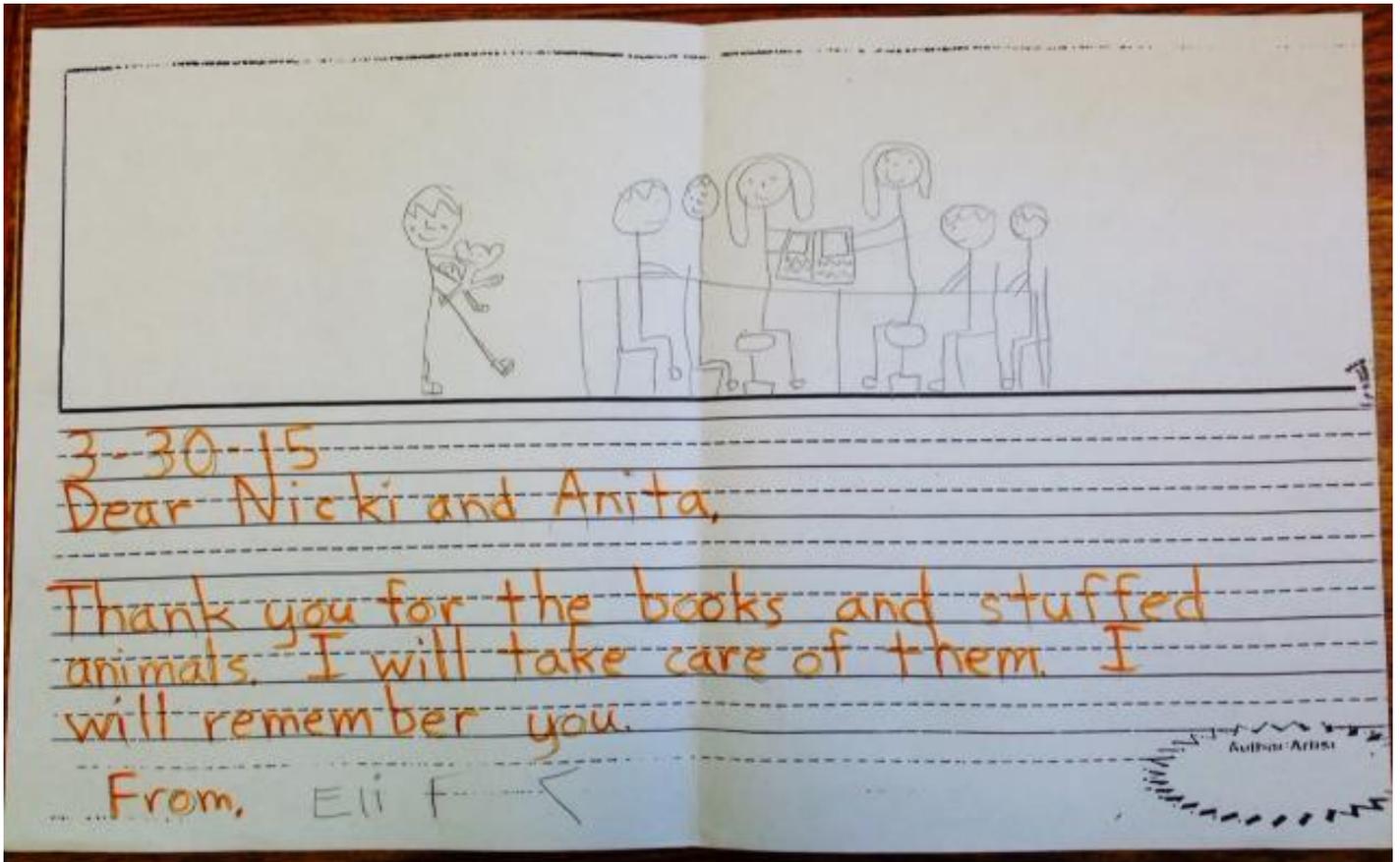
Orientation for all members will be June 20, 2015 at Joanne Doherty's place at Sebago Lake from 10:00am - 2:00ish. A pot-luck sign up sheet will be available at our June business meeting.

Special thank-you to all membership folks for their ideas and dedication which made our goal of increasing membership successful.

Martha G

ABC in Action

Thank you note received from a student after an ABC visit.



Altrusa's Volunteer of the Year Award



Service Chair Anita Chandler presents the 2015 Volunteer of the Year Award to Marilyn Goodreau. In addition to the award we also gave a \$250 donation in her honor to the organization for which she volunteers, the Maine Society for the Protection of Animals.

The Volunteer of the Year award was started in 2005 to honor non-Altrusan volunteers for their commitment to our communities. We solicit nominees from local nonprofits. The winner is chosen from the nominees based on their commitment, accomplishments and impact on the nonprofit.

Marilyn was nominated by the MSSPA based on her 40+ years of service to the organization. The MSSPA was founded in 1872 to provide care for horses retired from pulling fire engines and street cars. Currently it is New England's largest equine shelter, rehabilitating abused horses, finding homes for them when possible, and caring permanently for any that can't be adopted. The Society also fosters cats until permanent homes can be found. Go to www.msspa.org/ to learn more about their work.

Marilyn currently serves as President of the organization and Chairperson of the Board of Directors. She also oversees the adoption program and mentors horse owners on proper care. She has been an active animal welfare advocate, working to improve Maine animal welfare laws and their enforcement, and served as farm manager performing every job needing to be done for many years. Altrusa salutes Marilyn for her dedication and volunteer ethic!

The Volunteer of the Year Recipients since the beginning of the award are:

- 2005 - Patricia Beville - Root Cellar
- 2006 - The Heggeman Family - Maine Senior Games
- 2007 - Rick Rosu-Myles - Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Southern Maine
- 2008 - Elizabeth Oatley - Tate House Museum
- 2009 - Patsy Thompson Leavitt - Leavitt's Mill Free Health Center
- 2010 - Connie & Denis Netto - Portland Adult Education
- 2011 - Fran Seeley - PROP Foster Grandparents Program
- 2012 - Sandra Grubb - Trauma Intervention Program
- 2013 - Kim Lee - Morrison Center
- 2014 - Celena Moreau - CASA, Inc.
- 2015 - Marilyn Goodreau - Maine State Society for the Protection of Animals.



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Board Installation



Joanne Doherty and District visitor Lois Bloomer installed the 2015 - 2016 board on May 20th.

Pictured left to right: Anita Chandler, Pam Lemieux, Pam Szalajeski, Marie Pike, Lois (at the podium), Gerry Dongo, Karen Valley, Joane Doherty.

left to right: Pam Szalajeski, Patricia Maxim, Joane Doherty.



Outgoing board member Katie Klein with Lois, Joanne & Karen. Karen is outgoing vice-president but will stay on the board as a director for 2015-2016. Thank you both for all you do for Altrusa!





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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.



District visitor Lois Bloomer addresses the members at the May 20th meeting. Lois served as District One Director for the 2013 - 2015 biennium and was installed as Second Vice Governor at the Quebec conference for the 2015-2017 biennium.

Lois is a member and past president of the Bangor club. She works in insurance and also as a travel agent.

Thank you, Lois, for your visit and your service to Altrusa!

A reminder - The 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 deadline for Altrusagram articles is by end of day on the Friday after the program meeting - please be helpful by keeping to the deadline. (Earlier submissions are, of course, welcome!)

.Please send articles, pictures, dates of upcoming events, etc... to pikerino2@aol.com

Future District & International Events

International Convention - July 17-20, 2015 - Kansas City, MO

District One Workshop - Nov. 7, 2015 - Plymouth, MA

District One Conference Spring 2016 - North Conway, NH