



THE ALTRUIST

Email: INTERNATIONALALTRUSABIDDEFORD@GMAIL.COM

SEPTEMBER, 2018

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – September, 2018

President's message:

Hopefully you all had some relaxing fun times this summer with family and friends. Summer is so short, I cannot believe that Labor Day is already here.

Our club did not take the summer off, we were very active. We enjoyed our social event in July and had a very productive meeting in August. We even participated in service projects during the summer. We did Tools for Schools, buying school supplies, filling backpacks, calling people to remind them to pick up the backpacks and finally distributing them. Thank You Ann for spear heading this effort.

Thank you, Robin, for opening your home to prepare the books that will be given out this year at River Jam and the Pumpkinfest. We have an outstanding club, some donate time and energy, some contribute money but we all do our parts to make this the great club that it is.

The board met in June to begin the process of leading the club over the next two years. Our club is fortunate to have such dedicated members willing to commit their time and experience to the board. The board is meeting before the regular meeting in September to go over the evaluations. Thank you for the great response, we had over 83% of our members sharing their thoughts.

The club is hosting the workshop November 3rd, 2018. We hope to have over 75 Altrusans attending. Martha Taylor has done a terrific job securing the venue and a hotel for attendees to stay. Mel has agreed to chair the registration table, Martha will do decorations and Laura will oversee the expeditors. I am sure we will be asking members to take on various roles as the workshop gets closer.

It would be terrific to have a large presence at the workshop. Workshop is a time to connect with other clubs, to share and to learn.

RITA

Service Hours as of September 2018

| Member Service/ Volunteer Service/Community Service | | |
|---|-----|----|
| 107 | 343 | 48 |
| Year to date | | |
| 348 | 549 | 96 |



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Business Meeting, September 10, 2018, Wardwell 6:00 pm, hosted by Service Committee

River Jam Book Giveaway, September 15, 2018, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

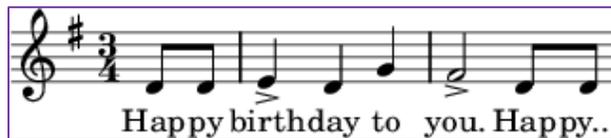
Program Meeting, September 24, 2018, 6:00 pm at Duffy's hosted by Service Committee

Pumpkinfest Book Giveaway, October 20, 2018, 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

November 3, 2018 District One Workshop, Duffy's OOB.

April 26-27, 2019 District Conference, Cromwell, CT

July 17, 2019 International Convention, Reno Nevada



Sarah Jane Poli, 9/2
Denise Doyon, 9/4
Mel Cannella, 9/18

THE MINUTES OF OUR LAST MEETING WILL BE DISPENSED BY HAND AT OUR DINNER MEETING ON 9/10/18.

FROM AMAZON FOUNDATION: Dear Charity Administrator,

This email is to notify you that Altrusa International Club of Biddeford-Saco (EIN: 95-4893864) has been issued a \$22.08 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between April 1 and June 30, 2018. The donation was deposited to your organization's bank account on or before August 15, 2018. It may take several days for the donation to appear in the account.

Always Old Business:

Lynn Steed continues to collect recyclable grocery bags.

Denise Doyon, the recycling guru of our club, continues to collect used ink cartridges and now has added used purses.

FROM DENISE: Quote from Better Homes and Gardens magazine: "Volunteering is an antidote to pessimism. It helps you see that no matter how small, you can do something about the problems around you." Sheryl Ziegler, Child Psychologist.

Our club has had a very active summer. How best to share it with everyone than with through our pictures of the activities we participated in. Here we go:

JULY.....Marguerite and Rita were kind enough to open their home once again and thrilled us with boat rides, steak and lobster and friendship and conversation. While the rest of us were drooling over the promised steak and lobster, Nancy Phillips fished for her supper (not really). That's a very happy smile and a great catch.





AUGUST.....

Our Wardwell buffet /
business meeting was a
resounding success:



No pictures, but Ray and Judy joined Mel on a sunny Sunday afternoon to help her prepare and cut **600** bookmarks.

Robin Huntley opened her home to Altrusans who then prepared, sorted through, cleaned and bookmarked the hundreds of books that will be given away at River Jam and Pumpkinfest this year.



We closed out the month of August with the distribution of the backpacks in the TOOLS FOR SCHOOLS program, joining hands with the United Way in our efforts.



Nearly every single club member participated in this program, either stuffing the backpacks, calling the parents to remind them of the pickup time and place, or distributing the backpacks on a very hot Tuesday.

And what did our members think of this effort?

- It was a great effort for us and rewarded by the happy kids ready to go to school. I tended the toothpaste and brushes table, most were very happy to these items. *Martha*
- I agree that many kudos go to Ann and Sharon, many very happy kids, families and caregivers as a result of this very worthwhile project. I'm very proud to be part of this group.
- Heat and all everyone had smiles on their faces....*Claudie*
- Happy to be a part of it. Enjoyed seeing the kids excited faces. Thank you for all of your effort Ann. Well done. *Marguerite*
- A great big thank you to everyone who helped out. I can't express how grateful I am. It had to be one of the hottest, most humid days of the summer, yet you chose to help distribute backpacks in non air conditioned churches. As my mother would say, "You all deserve a star for your crown." You truly have the Altrusa spirit. Thank you, Ann

DISTRICT ONE NEWS

District One Conference scheduled
April 27-28, 2019 – Cromwell, CT
Hosted by Central Connecticut
Red Lion Hotel, 100 Berlin Road, Cromwell, CT 06416

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL NEWS

International Convention

Every second year, Altrusa International holds a convention for the entire membership, with a similar purpose to District Conference but on a larger scale. The four-day program includes business meetings, a variety of workshops, keynote speakers, service projects, recognition through awards, election of international leadership, opportunities to connect and socialize with Altrusans from across the world, and a lot of fun!

The next Altrusa International Convention is July 17 – 20, 2019 at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino, Reno, Nevada.

NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Beginning June 1, 2018, the Grants Program is open for Altrusa Clubs to apply for both cycles in the fiscal year. Cycle one deadline is September 15th, and Cycle two deadline is March 15th. Also, the potential award is increased to \$4,000 per cycle!

“WHO IS ALTRUSA”

“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.”

FROM ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL: *VIRTUAL CLUBS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!*

The Altrusa Compass

Have you started a Virtual Club? Why not?

Mary Clare Lokken, Virtual Club Chair

The reason we usually don't move forward with a new project is we fear failure or don't know the rules. That is not a problem for Altrusa districts or local clubs forming Virtual Clubs. The International Board has approved guidelines for Virtual Clubs developed by the Virtual Clubs Task Force.

Log into Altrusa.org and click on Membership at the top of the page. Scroll down to Virtual Club and you'll find everything there you need to get started. There is a guide and seven other documents there to help you.

We Altrusans do two things really well – service and leadership development. The Virtual Club is your chance to grow both in your club and/or district by matching up a couple of members who want to see Altrusa grow in a new way.

Say a new member from Ames, Iowa wants to work on this but doesn't know Altrusa as well as a seasoned member from Red Oak, Iowa. No problem – they just start with any form of communication that works for them – phone, text, email, Facebook Messenger.

The goal is to expand Altrusa virtually – over any of the above communications. Now who's in? Stand up and say, I am!

[Update from the International Board](#)

Kathy Jackson, International Director The New Club Building and Virtual Club Toolkits are now posted on the International website. If you have not reviewed these, please take the time to review them. Both task forces worked very hard at combining everything you need to make the job easy including forms, sample agendas, and helpful tips.

At the moment, we have great momentum to start new clubs throughout Altrusa. If you need help please contact your District New Club Building Chair or the International New Club Building Chair. Their contact information is also on the International website.

What about starting a Virtual Club in your area? Virtual clubs are great for those members who have difficulty attending meetings. We currently have one District piloting a Virtual Club. How about starting a Virtual Club in your District? Just complete the application and submit it to the International office and we are there if you need assistance. What a great way to promote Altrusa and community service.

The challenge is on. Who is going to be the next club to charter a new Altrusa club or Virtual Club?

END OF NEWSLETTER