

Newsletter Date;
April 2010
Sue Clauson, Editor

Altruistically Speaking

President

Sue Clauson
(603) 527-0997
supjcn@metrocast.net

Vice-President

Diane Gaynor
(603) 366-4630
diangaynor@aol.com

Treasurer

Amanda Amidon
(603) 731-5155
accountforit@hotmail.com

Asst. Treasurer

Laura Cameron
(603) 293-7104
lcameron@laconia
electricssupply.com

Corresponding Secretary

Penny Franciosi
(603) 524-8384
hoddie@metrocast.net

Recording Secretary

Deb Cotton
(603) 524-2883
debbie.cotton@NE
moves.com

Board of Directors

Judi Shaw
(603) 524-5692
judishaw@metrocast.net

Maureen Sanborn

(603) 267-9817
homeintconsultant
@gmail.com

Immediate

Past President

Shirley Mento
(603) 524-3773
shirleymento@yahoo.com

Altrusa International Inc. of Laconia, New Hampshire, USA

President's Message

Hi Ladies,

As you receive this newsletter the Taste will be very near! I know Diane has worked hard coordinating the entire event and making it special as we celebrate our 20th year. I also know that each committee has been working hard to make it the best ever. After 20 years it runs like a well tuned clock, but there are always little glitches thrown in, but you ladies are always able to correct and fix any problems, making it a wonderful event.

Spring conference is also approaching. It promises many great workshops and speakers. If you would like to go and need a ride please let me know. I will be driving to Portland on Friday morning and you can ride with me.

We have a very important membership drive planned for May 25th. Please give thought to any friends, co-workers or family members that might be interested in becoming an Altrusan. We need every member to invite someone. Our club needs new members with fresh ideas and energy. Many of our existing members are feeling overworked and we need more "woman power" to ease the burden. More members mean less work and more laughs!

Sue

Club Motto:

Leaders in Service

Altrusa International Inc. of Laconia, NH

P.O. Box 124

Laconia, NH 03247

www.altrusalaconia.com



COMMITTEE REPORTS

BELKNAP COUNTY NURSING HOME

This committee continues to support a monthly party at the Nursing Home for all residents celebrating their birthday that month. It is always held on the first Wednesday of the month. Barbara D'Angelis and Tracie Grant faithfully attend the Altrusa birthday party each month. The residents love them! They serve them cake, sing and dance with the residents, while a musician plays the guitar. Barbara and Tracie buy the balloons and personally deliver them, saving the club a great deal of money. (In the past Altrusa has paid a higher price for the balloons and then had to pay a delivery fee.)

Each resident also receives a birthday card on their birthday. Sue Clauson does these cards and is always looking for generic birthday, or blank, cards. If you have any cards to donate the Committee would appreciate it!

FOSTER CARE

The Foster Care Committee is continuing to work with the Meredith Club's committee to assist foster care children in our area.

Another yard sale fundraiser is planned for May 22nd in Meredith. If you have any items to donate please contact Laura, Judi or Sharon. The two clubs will be located near the Meredith Chamber of Commerce on Route 3. No books or clothing please.

The committee is planning its 3rd annual picnic for Foster Care Families this summer. The date will be June 12th from 11:30 to 3:30. It will be held at Helen Robinson's Camp on beautiful Newfound Lake again this year. We will be looking for a few volunteers to bake cookies or brownies before the event and extra help is always welcome the day of the event. Please contact Laura if you are interested in helping.

The committee is also planning to provide "Back to School" backpacks to foster care children again this summer. They have some backpacks but will need to purchase more. They will also need to purchase the appropriate school items to stuff the backpacks. The group is working with the Department of Health & Human Services to ascertain what age and gender is needed.

**April Business Meeting
Tuesday, April 13, 2010**

Please remember to bring a non-perishable food donation if you wish to contribute to our collection of items for local food pantries.

Please remember to bring a pre-read book or books for our book sale fund raiser if you would like to take part.

Dates To Remember

April 6	Board Meeting, 7:00 AM, The Soda Shoppe
April 10	Set up "Taste of the Lakes"
April 11	Our 20 th Annual "Taste of the Lakes", 3:00-6:00, Lake Opechee Inn and Spa
April 13	Business Meeting, 5:30 PM, St. James Church
April 23-25	District One Spring Conference, Holiday Inn, Portland, ME
May 12	Tri-Club Birthday Party, The Bobhouse in Moultonboro, 5:30 PM
May 15	Used Book Sale Literacy Fundraiser at CVS-Gilford
May 25	Add an Altrusan Night at Diane's House
November 6	District One Fall Workshop, Hosted by Carroll County

No Program Meeting in April due to Spring Conference



This Article and the photo at the left appeared in the March LRGHealthcare Newsletter:

Laconia Altrusa Club Promotes Literacy at LRGH

The Altrusa International Club of Laconia, promoting literacy, has once again donated reading guides and books to LRGHealthcare's Family Birthplace. The women in this group create gift bags for new mothers that provide helpful resources and information on literacy topics, including the improvement of reading instruction for children, youth, and adults. Also included and always a favorite are a few of the famed "Golden Books" which tell the childhood stories we all know and love.

"We make certain that our new mother's receive this gift bag" states Ruth O'Hara, Director of LRGHealthcare's Family Birthplace. "Most people do not think about buying books for a new baby. It is something that is thought of at a later time." More than any other single skill, the ability to read - and read well - allows a child to succeed in school, learn about the world, function in society, and someday have good career options. Reading to a child, even in the earliest stages, helps to promote and foster creativity and help children understand that spoken words have meaning. They show that printed words have meaning. And they help children associate books and reading with pleasurable experiences.

The women in the Altrusa Club take literacy very seriously. Members have written and published their own books and have also created "Betty the Big Blue Bookworm". Betty is 9 feet long and is a favorite in local parades and also travels to schools and library programs within the Lakes Region helping to promote childhood reading.

The Altrusa International Club of Laconia was organized in 1944, 27 years after the parent organization was founded, and is made up of women of all ages, businesses and professions. There are Altrusa Clubs in 19 countries with a membership of close to 15,000. Altrusa has been associated with the United Nations since 1946 and is a member of the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO). An Acronym of Amity, Loyalty, Talent, Reciprocity, Unity, Service and Achievement; Altrusa in Laconia primarily supports a number of literacy initiatives as well as the Foster Parent Association, scholarships, the Belknap County Nursing Home, the New Hampshire Humane Society and Laconia Adopt-A-Spot Program.

Getting to know our Altrusa Sisters better:

MEMBER PROFILE:

Penny Franciosi

I was born and raised in Vermont and Massachusetts and graduated from Lunenburg High School in 1962. My husband Dennis and I were high school sweethearts and have been married for 47 years. We have two children, Jennifer and Angela. Jennifer lives in NY with her husband and three children. Angela lives in Daleville, Ala. I also have two four legged children, Cloe and Murray. They are West highland White Terriers and they think they are humans in dog's clothes!!!!!!

I worked for the Department of the Army at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY as a Human Resource Specialist for 25yrs. West Point is full of history and is a great place to visit and tour. Dennis worked for IBM for 25yrs, retired then worked for Dept of Treasury and retired again when I did. We moved to Laconia and found the house of our dreams. I worked part time for Curves for 4yrs and one day decided it was time to just play.

I now spend my days enjoying my favorite things like, skiing and snowshoeing, kayaking, motorcycles, crafts, sewing, cooking, gardening, going to car shows with our Street Rods, traveling in our motor home, volunteering with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and of course Altrusa. When did I have time to work!!!!

BIRTHDAY GIRL

April 30 Adrienne Stevens

Minutes of Business Meeting

Recorded by Shirley Mento

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL, INC of LACONIA, NH Business Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 9, 2010

Call to Order:

The business meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Sue. Members in attendance were: Amanda Amidon, Nancy LeRoy, Laura Cameron, Barbara DeAngelis, Tracie Grant, Carla Peterson, , Shirley Mento, Jan Gilbert, Jean Vaillancourt, Elaine Townsley, Diane Gaynor, Idelle Lipman, Penny Francioni, Judi Shaw. We had two guests both from the Biddeford-Saco club, Jan Bosse; District Director and Linda Hennebury.

Secretary's Report: Shirley reported that the minutes to the January Business meeting were e-mailed to all members. The minutes were approved by Nancy LeRoy and seconded by Diane Gaynor. Approved

Treasurer's Report: Amanda passed out the treasurer's report and read it to the membership. There were no questions asked

Correspondence: Penny said we received a very nice thank you note from Debbie Frawley Drake for inviting her to our program meeting and making her an honorary member of Altrusa of Laconia for her past contributions to our Taste of the Lakes Region.

We also received a request for donations of food from the Lakes Region Vineyard Church. Each year they do a food drive from March 1 thru April 30th and for each non perishable food item that they receive they receive \$1.00 from a Corporate Sponsor. Shirley made a motion to buy food; it was amended to spend \$200.00 to buy food to donate and was seconded by Carla. It was also suggested that club members donate food also. The Boys & Girls Club is having a "Caribbean Cruise Night" on March 13th at The Inns & Spa at Mill Falls. Cost of tickets is \$50.00 per person or \$85.00 per couple. This is a fund raiser for the Boys & Girls Club.

Program Committee: The March Program meeting will be a committee meeting for the Taste and any other committee that needs help. It will be a brown bag meeting. Water and soft drinks will be provided. There will be no program meeting in April due to Spring Conference. May will be a membership drive and all members are encouraged to bring a guest.

A fund raiser was implemented at our program meeting as a way of raising money for our Internal Funds. Those that joined in were weighed and for each pound that you lose you pay one dollar to the bikini fund and in the end the money will be split between the club and the biggest loser.

Tracie talked about bringing a book to the next business meeting that you have read and it will be sold at the meeting. What is left over will be sold at our book sale. This is also to raise money for our internal funds. Laura asked for ideas for the fund raiser at district conference. We had a suggestion of fudge.

BCNH Birthday Party: Barbara reported that there were 11 residents that they were honoring for their birthdays. They bought 12 balloons in case one broke, but when they arrived they were told that there was a new resident and her birthday was in March.

Literacy: Judi reported they donated about 60 books to the Lakes Region General Hospital for the new mothers program. They are trying to get a picture in the hospital's newsletter and a copy to submit with our Letha Brown award. The libraries have requested that we bring Betty to the library again to read to the children and also to the schools.

Foster Care: Laura reported that the joint committees will be getting together Thursday March 11 in Meredith to start making plans for the summer picnic.

Membership: Diane reported that we will be having a membership drive at the Taste. A table will be set up with our brochures and also applications and information on our Web Site. We are also having a membership drive at our May program meeting.

Minutes, Continued

Taste of the Lakes: Diane reported that they met with Kathy for table placement and she is getting pictures made larger to display around the hall.

Carla has been working with the newspaper. Judi has been working with the radio stations. Amanda and Diane will be meeting with the Chamber to post the Taste to their newsletter. Amanda also mentioned that both her and Diane met last Tuesday with the Chamber to go over some issues that Altrusa has had with them in the past. They apologized and said that they are making some changes and offered Altrusa the use of their upstairs conference room if we needed it. Jan Bosse requested a copy of the poster that Diane has made up and is placing around town to advertise the Taste.

Rick Hopper has been asked if one of his announcers would like to be our MC and he said he will work on it. Penny sent around a sign up sheet for the day of the Taste. We have all been asked to help out.

Old Business: Shirley reported for the nominating committee that there are two positions that have not been filled; she asked if anyone was interested in filling these positions. After not getting a response we asked to have a vote on the nomination of board directors; they are, Diane Gaynor for President; Amanda Amidon for Vice President; Laura Cameron for Treasurer and Maureen Sanborn for Secretary. These nominees will be presented at our April meeting for a vote of approval.

The Sister Club Birthday Party will be held on Wednesday May 12th at the Bobhouse Restaurant in Moultonboro.

New Business: Sue received an e-mail from Deb Smith telling us that they will be ordering from Doc Morgan and selling items at conference. Amanda said we needed some new member kits and it was agreed that we should get five.

Delegates to Spring Conference will be discussed at the next business meeting once we receive more information on the nominees.

At this time it has been determined that the following members will be going to Spring Conference; Amanda, Diane, Laura, Brenda, Carla, Judi, Sue, Penny, Jean and Shirley. Jan is not sure yet. We need two delegates and two alternates. Judi said she would be a delegate if no other new member was going. If Jan goes she will be the second delegate and both Amanda and Jean offered to be alternates.

We had discussion on the proposed change to a District One by Law. Sue asked Jan Bosse to explain why they were requesting this change. She said that there are only three districts that do not have their governor's term coincide with International and because of that our governor has to work with two different International Presidents and each one has a different agenda. This will be discussed further at our next business meeting. Jan also spoke about the Fall Workshop which will be held this year in Madison and sponsored by the Carroll County Club. Sue asked Jan if she could give us any information on membership and Jan said "don't be afraid to ask".

Happy Dollars: We received a Happy/Sad dollar from Idelle, she told us that she will be moving to California probably before June to be near her family. Idelle has been a member of Altrusa since 1989. Shirley said her grand-daughter just found out that she is having a little girl in July and Penny said that a very dear friend of hers has had a grand-daughter and her daughter named her Penelope after Penny.

Penny also announced that Kitty and Adrienne visited with Rachel Normandin in Florida and that she is doing very well.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:05

Respectfully submitted;
Shirley Mento

Altrusa International of Laconia
Financial Statement
March 31, 2010

Internal Funds (Operations)

Checking Account	
Previous Balance	1,827.71\$
Income	
Happy Dollars/ Pin Fines	6.00\$
Interest Income	0.07\$
Total Income	6.07\$
Disbursements	
Diane Gaynor - Membership Brochures	30.00\$
Sue Clauson - Award Submission Materials	14.72\$
Total Disbursements	44.72\$
Current Balance	1,789.06\$

Savings Account	
Previous Balance	3,728.40\$
Income	
Interest	0.35\$
Disbursements	
Current Balance	3,728.75\$

Foundation Funds

Checking Account	
Previous Balance	3,767.20\$
Income	
Taste of LR Ticket Sales	3,125.00\$
Taste of LR Donations	350.00\$
Interest Income	0.14\$
Total Income	3,475.14\$
Disbursements	
Lake Opechee Inn and Spa	472.00\$
Brenda Tillotson - Taste Pub Supplies	88.98\$
Diane Gaynor - Taste Supplies	129.93\$
Barbara DeAngelis - Taste and BCNH	17.00\$
Lakes Region Vineyard Church	200.00\$
Total Disbursements	907.91\$
Current Balance	6,334.43\$

District One Information

Don't forget to register for the District I Spring Conference, which will be held April 23-25, 2010 in Portland, ME.
Registration forms and conference information are available on the District I website at www.district1.com.

International Information

If you would like more information on Altrusa International, visit their website at www.altrusa.com.

Foundation Information

For more information visit www.altrusa.com/foundation.