

Newsletter Date;
January 2010
Sue Clauson, Editor

Altruistically Speaking

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Altrusa International Inc. of Laconia, New Hampshire, USA

President's Message

Hi Ladies,

Happy New Year! Doesn't it seem odd to be writing 2010? The past year has flown by. Let's hope the winter flies too!

What a wonderful Holiday Party we had at the Stonegate Vineyard! The Program Committee did a great job of planning the event and new member Annie Hodapp's food was fantastic.

Our "Taste of the Lakes" will be upon us soon. Committees have been decided and will be working hard to make it as successful as ever. It's our 20th anniversary, and ideas have been discussed to make it special. As chair, Diane will need lots of help. I know we will all work with her and assist her in making it a wonderful event. If you have any new ideas be sure to let her know.

Spring Conference will be here before we know it. Scheduled for April 23 through April 25, it will take place in Portland, ME. These conferences always prove to be informative and fun. Please try to attend, whether you are a new member or have attended conferences in the past.

*Wishing all of you the very best in 2010,
Sue*

Club Motto:

Leaders in Service

Altrusa International Inc. of Laconia, NH
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COMMITTEE REPORTS

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership has decreased and it's time to think about a membership drive. Try to think if you know anyone that might be a good addition to our club. Invite her to one of our business meetings or program meetings. Give her one of our new marketing brochures and let her check out our website (www.altrusalaconia.com), as well as District I (www.altrusadistrict1.com) and International (www.altrusa.com). Once she sees all that we accomplish, and how much fun we have doing it, she will want to become an Altrusan.

BELKNAP COUNTY NURSING HOME

Each month, on the first Wednesday, a party is held at the Nursing Home to honor all residents with a birthday during that month. Residents with a birthday receive a card and a balloon. Cake is served to everyone and music is provided. The residents really enjoy it.

If you ever find yourself with the time to attend the party, please join us. You'll find that you get even more out of it than the residents do!

Our Newest Member – Anne Marie Hodapp

Annie Hodapp resides in Laconia, NH with her two beautiful children George and Lillian. She has worked in the food service industry for much of her professional life, receiving her Restaurant and Resort management degree from Colorado State University. She is excited to be the new business owner of Annie's Café and Catering, located at 585 Union Ave in The Eight Gables Mall. She enjoys spending time with her children, boyfriend Brian, skiing, running, mountain biking and cooking. Her son George is 11 and attends Laconia Middle School. Lillian is 7 and attends Elm Street School. She looks forward to working with Altrusa to share her talents and experience to help others and give back to the community.

Important Dates to Remember:

January 5	Board Meeting, 7:00 AM, at the Soda Shoppe
January 6	BCNH Birthday Party, 2:30 PM, at the Nursing Home
January 12	Business Meeting, 5:30 PM at St. James Church
January 26	Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM, at St. James Church
February 2	Board Meeting, 7:00 AM, at the Soda Shoppe
April 23-25	District One Spring Conference, Holiday Inn, Portland, ME (More info to follow)



BIRTHDAY GIRLS

January 6th Elaine Townsley
January 18th Laura Cameron

Below is the e-mail from Sue Noyes, upon receiving our gift to her for all she has done on our website:


Laura,
I got home from another crazy, stressful 12 hour day at J. Jill last night (we're converting payroll systems and going live on 01/01) and Dan (husband) handed me a Christmas card and said "this came in the mail for you today". So I opened it up and was totally BLOWN AWAY! I don't even know what to say!

I enjoy working on the Altrusa sites because I know the great work all these clubs do and this is just my way of helping the cause so you can help more people – it's a labor of love for me. The Altrusa's kindness and generosity brought me a tear to my eye – literally. This was totally unexpected, but 100% appreciated. The smile has not left my face since I opened that card – you made my year 😊

"Thank you" doesn't begin to express my appreciation – there are no words – just that you blew me away with that one!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND ALL THE ALTRUSAN'S!

Please share this with all involved for me ok?
Peace,
Sue
North Country Web Solutions
www.NorthCountryWebSolutions.com
ph. 603-387-2733



Hi ladies,

By now you've probably seen Sue Noyes response to our gift to her. I received a phone call the other day from Joe Spinale who did the parade video for us. He too was blown away by actually receiving a formal thank you which I sent him along with some of the parade pictures. Though he does volunteer a lot, he said no one else has ever sent him a formal thank you and he was really touched by our appreciation. It's because of that that he'd gladly do it again next year or maybe even for the Taste.

I just want to remind everyone how important those formal "thank you's" are, whether they include a gift or not. Whoever we receive anything from, be it product or service, the contact member should immediately send out a thanks on our letterhead. Not only does it promote goodwill on behalf of the club, but these people are more apt to happily continue to support us in the future. With the advent of email, to receive an actual mailed letter goes such a long way – yes, we cared enough to take the time!

Diane

Recording Secretary, Deb Cotton, will be spending the winter in the warm, sunny south. While she is away Shirley Mento has agreed to record the minutes of our meetings. Thank you Shirley!

Newsletter Deadline:
The 25th of each month
I'd like to get the newsletter sent to you by the first week of the month.
Please e-mail your articles, recipes, interesting tidbits of info, or anything else you think of to me at:
supjcn@metrocast.net

Minutes of Business Meeting

Debbie Cotton, Recording Secretary

Altrusa International Inc. of Laconia
Minutes (corrected): December 8, 2009

Call to Order

- President, Sue Clauson, called the meeting to order at 5:30 at the St. James Church Hall. There were 19 members present and 1 excused: Eva Hurst, Barbara DeAngelis, Judi Shaw, Jean Vaillancourt, Maureen Sanborn, Brenda Tillotson, Sue Clauson, Debbie Cotton, Tracie Grant, Gloria Gallant, Carla Peterson, Diane Gaynor, Sharon Shetler, Amanda Amidon, Idelle Lipman, Penny Franciosi, Nancy LeRoy, Shirley Mento, and newest member, Annie Hodapp. Donna Werda and Jan Gilbert were excused. Terri Crane is excused for the winter months.
- Guest Introductions: There were no guests.
- Secretary's Report: The November minutes were e-mailed to the members after the November meeting. Moved by Penny and 2nd by Nancy they be accepted as written.
- Treasurer's Report: Amanda presented the November 30, 2009 financial statement which she had e-mailed to the members. There were no correction or omissions noted.
- Correspondence: Penny
There were requests for donations received from the Middle NH Arts & Entertainment Center (the opera house) in Franklin, Community Health & Hospice and the Gilmanton Year Round Library. Thank you notes were sent to Lou, PJ and Gary for their help with the holiday parade. A note will also be sent to Brian Gilbert for the use of his flatbed truck. A condolence card was sent to Elaine Townsley. Judi returned a letter passed on to scholarship that was a request for money for a trip.

Committee Reports

- Program Committee & Fundraising: Amanda and Laura & Maureen
Amanda mentioned the two committees are now joined. The details for the Holiday Party have been finalized. Invitations have been sent to each member. The party is on 12/15 from 5:30-8:00PM at the Stone Gate Vineyard, 27 David Lewis Rd, Gilford. Annie's Catering is doing the food and members bringing a batch of their favorite cookies with the recipe is optional.
- BCNH Birthday Party: Barbara and Tracie
They did not get balloons from Elaine as she was closed for vacation. They got 8 balloons for \$1/each at the Dollar Store. They are going to try working without having a delivery and the Dollar Store for a while to see how it works. Amanda checked on our bill with Elaine and we only owed \$15 for November and there were no December balloons ordered.
- Literacy: Donna and Judi
Judi reported that the float in the Holiday Parade with Betty went very well. There was some discussion about facing Betty to the back of the float and maybe having people on the float which was deferred until parade time next year. The children's librarian at the Gilford Public Library, Jesse Tanner, wrote a letter saying they were looking forward to the possibility of Betty returning for a visit. Judi said Betty would be doing that. Jesse told Diane they would like for all our members to come to the library so they could show us what they've done with our donations. Amanda spoke with a Rainbow girl who had asked about joining in with us on a literacy project.
- Foster Care: Sharon and Laura
Sharon said that Sylvia and the Meredith Club came up with the funding for the Kinship Family. They are still waiting to see if there are any Newcomers into foster care who will be in need of Christmas gifts. There is a Mitten Tree and donations can be dropped off to Linda at the Health & Human Services office or brought to the Holiday Party.
- Public Relations: Diane and Carla

Minutes, Continued

Diane reported that the Holiday Parade slides won't be able to be uploaded to the website right now because Sue Noyes is extremely busy. Eva noted she sent photos to all of the papers and none were published, even after she called them. She was generally disappointed with the news coverage. Eva is going to call her contact with the Salmon Press again. Diane noted the C of C also seemed to get recognition, where we did not, when they didn't even have the Parade on their calendar or website. Sharon said the Parade was on Channel 25. Shirley commented it was only our 3rd year and felt we're doing very well.

- New Brochure, Letterhead, Business Cards: Diane

Diane hasn't been able to get together with J&J Printing and also wants to price Kinkos. The online company, Vista Printing, is \$163 for 1000 letterhead and she needs to research the brochure more for pricing with them. Annie will also try to get a quote for printing costs from the illustrator who does her menus. Amanda reminded all of us to be mindful and to be careful about incurring any expenses for non-budgeted items.

Old Business:

- Parade: Diane

The highlights have already been touched on and the committee has made notes. Float line-up procedure will be reviewed as well as increasing coverage at the 106/107 intersection. Sharon Cavanaugh did an outstanding job pretty much alone at that intersection. It was suggested a thank you be sent to her for the great job she did.

New Business

- Elaine Townsley: Shirley or Sue

Shirley reported Elaine's daughter, Barbara, who had been battling Huntington's Disease, passed away. There was an out of the area graveside service. Elaine is doing fine and is relieved Barbara is no longer suffering.

- Taste of the Lakes: Diane

Diane checked that everyone was OK with the assignment list she had e-mailed to the membership. The chef logo has been up-dated to include a 20th anniversary cake. She is working on compiling a video presentation of the past years of the Taste. Tim Cameron has donated the use of a projector for the presentation. Brenda is off and running as Chair of Solicitations. They will be meeting in January. The ticket is being worked on.

- New Member Initiation: Diane

Annie Hodapp was initiated by being invited to join us on "the Altrusa Cruise". The "Cruise" took us from the origin of Altrusa to the present day and was a trip we all enjoyed traveling on. The finale was Diane and Sharon singing the Altrusa version of the theme to "Love Boat". It was a fun and creative installation. Annie's address is 76 Garden Circle, Laconia, NH, H# 528-6484; W# 524-6400; E-mail is anniescateringandevents@yahoo.com

- Other Business: Sue

Deb Smith, from District, has asked if we had any photos we would like to put up on the District Facebook page. Eva will forward her some pictures Deb can choose from. At conference, Deb used the power point presentation Amanda had put together for when she, Diane and Shirley did a program for Rotary.

Announcements/Happy Dollars

- Tracie: Her happy news was her daughter just got engaged last week.
- Sue: Sue is happy that Annie has become a member of our Club.

Adjourn

Financial Statement

Prepared By Amanda Amidon, Treasurer

Please note: Interest income is not included for Operations or Foundation Accounts

Altrusa International of Laconia Financial Statement December 30, 2009

Internal Funds (Operations)

Checking Account

Previous Balance	\$ 2,817.88
Income	
November Program Meals	\$ 10.00
December Pin Fines	\$ 3.00
December Happy Dollars	\$ 3.00
December Program Meals	\$ 450.00
Interest Income	
Total Income	\$ 466.00
Disbursements	
Engraving Awards - Hodapp Name Badge	\$ 13.75
J J Printing - Yearbooks 2009 - 2010	\$ 192.00
Annie's Café	\$ 283.02
Stone Gate Vineyard - Wine for Gift Baskets	\$ 48.00
CVS Pharmacy	\$ 515.85
Lunar Grid Web Development	\$ 120.00
Amanda Amidon - Supplies for Gift Baskets	\$ 108.13
Cider Press - Gift Certificate for Ellis'	\$ 25.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 1,305.75
Current Balance	\$ 1,978.13

Savings Account

Previous Balance	\$ 3,727.00
Income	
Interest	\$ 0.46
Disbursements	
Current Balance	\$ 3,727.46

Foundation Funds

Checking Account

Previous Balance	\$ 4,179.52
Income	
Interest Income	
Total Income	\$ -
Disbursements	
Heaven Scent	\$ 15.00
Shirley Mento	\$ 24.62
Tracie Grant	\$ 8.00
Meredith Altrusa	\$ 175.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 222.62
Current Balance	\$ 3,956.90

District 1 Information

Joanne Doherty has resigned as Governor of District One, effective December 15th, 2009 due to ill health. She has assured us that she is "ok", but needs to decrease the demands in her life, at the request of her doctors, to get well. We wish her a speedy and complete recovery.

I am now the Governor of District One. The District One Board had a productive and cohesive conference call last night, December 16th. We would like to inform you that we are making the necessary changes to accommodate this transition of leadership, and that all is well with the District Board. We are moving forward with the "business" of the District and are focusing on plans for Conference 2010. We have another conference call on January 5th, a winter Board meeting on

February 6th, and hope to get the DSB out by January 15th.

I pledge to do my best as your new Governor. I want to assure you that the rest of the District One Board members have also promised to do whatever it takes to make sure that District One moves forward. Each of them have already volunteered to help in any way they can with this transition.

*Thanks
Ann Babbitt
Governor District One Altrusa*

If you would like more information on District 1, visit their website at www.altrusadistrict1.com (please note that it is now a .com site, not .org).

International Information

Across the globe to the largest continent in the world, Altrusa International, Inc. has made a connection. Thanks to efforts from the Clubs-At-Large Committee, New Club Building, and the District Eleven International Relations Chair, solid contacts have been made in the African countries of Kenya and Sierra Leone as potential locations for new Altrusa Clubs! New Club building materials have been sent and their receipt has been confirmed. Building these relationships will require much nurturing from us to come to fruition, but the seeds have been planted and we are so excited about the future possibilities.

(From the International Altrusan)

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



Foundation Information

Foundation's Club 21

The name **Club 21** was chosen to emphasize the Foundation's commitment to being involved in a major international health concern into the 21st century. **Club 21** is unique in that contributors are a part of a "club," with a membership and their own pin. Through an annual contribution of \$21 (US) or more, you can become a part of the foundation's effort to support children infected with HIV and AIDS.

HIV and AIDS are global epidemics affecting people in all countries and from all walks of life, but it is the innocent children who bear the

brunt of this disease. **Club 21** is the opportunity to extend your hand to these children and their families.

As a member of **Club 21** you will receive the special gold and white **Club 21 Pin**, signifying your participation in a program that every Altrusan will be proud of. **Club 21** – a way for you to make a difference.

For more on Altrusa Foundation see next month's "Altruistically Speaking"