



District One Altrusa International, Inc.
Bermuda, Canada, Connecticut, Massachusetts,
New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont

District Service Bulletin

Volume 10 Issue 4

“Leaders in Service”

February/March 2012

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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



Hello all!

It is with excitement that I write for the District Service Bulletin! There is so much information in here, especially about Conference April 26th through April 29th in Montpelier, Vermont at the Capital Plaza Hotel. The Theme for this conference will be LEADING TO A BETTER COMMUNITY! We'll have time to share our experiences, learn how far the “new” logo has come, and discuss “Officer Burnout” in the All-Conference Leadership Workshop. I cannot stress enough the importance to make your reservation as soon as possible and mail your registration to Rita Cote, Treasurer. If the Capitol Plaza Hotel is full, see the “Alternative Hotel Accommodations” at the Comfort Inn just *down the road apiece!* Don't forget the Sap Buckets! Our Auctioneer Extraordinaire Joan Caddigan will be the entertainment for Saturday evening and it is sure to be an evening of great fun! The Barre, Vermont club will donate half of the proceeds in the name of Katherine Patterson to the Aldrich Library (<http://www.aldrich.lib.vt.us>) where they volunteer. Katherine will be the Keynote Speaker on Friday. Read about her in the following pages.

“Conference at a Glance” is here, too. There will be some changes as time goes on, but this should excite you to be there and enjoy the Altrusa camaraderie. Remember to submit for all awards before March 15th. The Altrusans accepting them are listed here. I hope every club in the District will submit for several awards. Let's share all that we do in our community! Maureen Welsh, International Director from Marion, Ohio (District Five) will be our International Visitor. Maureen has visited District One in the past and is excited to be with us again. Make it a plan to make yourself known to her.

Your District Board voted Gay Douglas of Altrusa International of Northeastern, Connecticut to chair the New Club Building Committee. She graciously accepted! After all, it is Gay who has formed a brand new club to be called Altrusa International of Greater Hartford, Connecticut! I wish I had the Charter date to give you all here, but it has not been set. What a party that will be! We hope it will be in March and you are all invited to be there! You will receive an invitation as soon as the plans have been made. Ann Marie Snyder found it necessary to step down when family health issues and her position as International Foundation Chair became overwhelming.

As a reminder, Kathy Stasko (Altrusa International of the Seacoast), 2nd Vice-Governor, is looking for recipes from all clubs. She is hoping to go to press this month and have Altrusa District cookbooks for sale at Conference. Funds raised are earmarked to District to defray the cost of Convention in New Zealand. I hope you are saving up to make the trip!

Please bring an item for the silent auction for Foundation. It should be something that will “travel” well. Bring your club banners. It may be the last time we will use them with the “old” logo! There will be an Altrusa Store with new items using the new logo! You will want to stock up and bring things home to your club.

See you all at conference!

Susannah

Governor

District One Altrusa

Inside this Issue

Governor's Message	1
Spring Conference	2
Spring Conference At a Glance	3
Spring Conference Directions	3
Spring Conference Hotel Reservation Form	4
Spring Conference Keynote Speaker	5
Spring Conference Memorial Service	5
Spring Conference Silent Auction	5
Spring Conference Year in Review	5
Award Submission Contacts	6
Spring Conference Saturday Excursion	7
Sap Buckets & Additional Accomodations	8
Meet your Conference Co-Hosts	8
Conference Meal Menu	8
Conference Registration	9
Club News	10-11
Membership	12
Committee News	13



**ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT ONE
SPRING CONFERENCE**

**April 26 – 29, 2012
Montpelier, Vermont**

**Hosted by
Barre, VT Altrusa Club**

SPRING CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

**Capitol Plaza Hotel
Montpelier, Vermont
Hosted by: Altrusa International of
Barre, Vermont**

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 2012

3:00 pm – 7:00 pm – Registration
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm – Pre-Conference Board Meeting
9:00 pm – Governor’s Welcome – Governor’s Suite

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2012

7:30 am – 10:30 am – Registration

WORKSHOPS

8:00 am – 9:15 am – President & Vice President’s
8:30 am – 9:15 am – Treasurer’s
8:30 am – 9:15 am – First Timer’s Session
9:15 am – 9:45 am – Delegate Briefing
9:15 am – 9:45 am – Flag Ceremony Practice

10:00 am – 11:45 am – 1st Business Session
12:00 NOON – Lunch
Keynote Speaker: Katherine Paterson

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2012 (CONTINUED)

WORKSHOPS

2:15 pm – 3:15 pm – Re-branding – All Members
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm – Service Roundtable
International Foundation
Membership
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm – Fundraising Fair Set-Up
5:00 pm – 5:45 pm – Fundraising Fair and Foundation
Silent Auction
6:15 pm – 7:00 pm – Reception for International Rep.
Maureen Welsh
7:00 pm – DINNER and awards

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2012

7:30 am – 8:30 am – Registration
8:00 am – 8:30 am – Nominating Committee Elections
8:00 am – 9:00 am – Breakfast Buffet
9:00 am – 9:45 am – LEADERSHIP – All members
10:00 am – 12:00 noon – 2nd BUSINESS SESSION
1:30 pm – Free time for excursions
1:30 pm – “FUN” Workshop (TBA)
6:30 pm – 7:15 pm – Past Governor’s Reception
7:15 pm – DINNER and Auction

SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2012

9:00 am – 12:00 noon – Post-Conference Board
Meeting

Directions to Capitol Plaza, 100 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont

From Massachusetts, Vermont and Maine (except Bangor):

Take I-93 North to I-89 North, crossing into Vermont. Take Exit 8, US Route 2. Merge onto Memorial Drive. Go left onto US Route 2. This is Bailey Avenue Extension and will take you over a small bridge. Go right onto US Route 2, State Street. Capitol Plaza is on the right.

From Connecticut:

Take I-91 North toward Springfield, Massachusetts. Follow into Vermont. Merge onto I-89 North toward Barre/Montpelier. Follow directions above.

From Bangor, Maine:

You are the exception to all of the above directions! Please MapQuest or call Susannah Leslie at 617-733-4722.

CAPITOL  PLAZA

Hotel and Conference Center
100 State Street Montpelier, VT 05602

OVERNIGHT RESERVATION FORM
Altrusa International District One Spring Conference
Thursday April 26-Sunday April 29, 2012

Option #1 – Call us at either 802-223-5252 or 800-274-5252 to make your reservation.

Option #2 – Email this form to info@capitolplaza.com to make your reservation.

Option #3 – Complete this form and mail back to us by March 15th and we will make your reservation for you.

Guest Information:

Name(s): _____ # Adults: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Date of Arrival: _____

Date of Departure: _____

Credit Card Information:

Type of Card: VISA AMEX DISC MASTERCARD

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Nightly Cost:

Single Occupancy \$105.00 plus tax

Double Occupancy \$115.00 plus tax

Mail by March 15th with credit card info to: Capitol Plaza Hotel Attn: Anna Bruce
100 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602

Spring Conference Friday Luncheon Keynote Speaker
KATHERINE PATERSON

Katherine Paterson is the author of more than 30 books including 16 novels for children and young people. She has twice won the Newbery Medal, for *Bridge to Terabithia* in 1978 and *Jacob Have I Loved* in 1981. *The Master Puppeteer* won the National Book Award in 1977 and *The Great Gilly Hopkins* won the National Book Award in 1979 and was also a Newbery Honor Book. For the body of her work she received the Hans Christian Anderson Award in 1998, the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award in 2006, and in 2000, was named a Living Legend by the Library of Congress.

She is a vice-president of the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance (www.thencbla.org) and is a member of the Board of Trustees for Vermont College of Fine Arts (www.vermontcollege.edu). She is also an honorary lifetime member of the International Board of Books for Young People (www.IBBY.org) and an Alida Cutts lifetime member of the US section, USBBY (www.USBBY.org). She was the 2010-2011 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. (www.read.gov/cfb/ambassador/)

She and her husband live in Vermont, where they have four grown children, seven grandchildren and a wonderful Golden Retriever named Annie.

Spring Conference Memorial Service

Attention all Clubs and Presidents: For the Memorial Service at Spring Conference – please send a picture and a brief write-up of what you will be saying about the Altrusan who has passed away in the past year. Also, I need to know who will be doing the presentation and will be in touch with them. I would appreciate getting these as soon as you have them ready. Please email to: ababbitt@main.rr.com

Thanks!

SILENT AUCTION

District One will again be having a silent auction at District One Conference in Vermont in April. Due to the clubs and members kind donations, we were able to raise over \$4,000 in the past two years! Wow! This money was sent to the International Foundation to help them keep up their important work in aiding people all over the world. Again this year we are asking for donations for the Silent Auction. Donations can be anything and there is no price range, but we would especially like something that reflects “your neck of the woods”. Thank you in advance. Looking forward to seeing you all in Vermont. It is such a beautiful area and the Barre club always does a wonderful job. See you there!

Kathy Stasko
Foundation Chair

*P.S. Don't forget to bring your little piggy friends.
Remember, “Pig of the Year” is up for grabs!*

**DISTRICT ONE YEAR IN
REVIEW**

ATTENTION ALL CLUBS!

Once again, we will be putting together an Altrusa District One Year in Review” video for the District Spring Conference. It would be great if we had photos from every club in the district! Please forward any photos you would like to have in the video to District Service Bulletin Editor Liisa Budge-Johnson at owatasave@yahoo.com.

All submissions must be received by March 30th.
DON'T BE LEFT OUT!

Altrusa District One Award Submission Contacts

Celebrate Your Successes! Share What Works! Take a Bow!

It is always a pleasure to see and hear about ALL the good things that Altrusans do. It would be great if EVERY club had at least one submission. The submission forms are on the District One website. You can download them by going to www.altrusadistrict1.org. Click the awards tab and choose the form. After completing the form, mail your submission to the following Altrusans.

DEADLINE – MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 15, 2012

Mamie L. Bass Award (Service)

Lois Bloomer
Altrusa International of Bangor, ME
826 Bog Road
Hermon, ME 04401
bloomeragency@juno.com

Letha H. Brown Award (Literacy)

Linda Kudrick Ring
Altrusa International of Central CT
98 Pond Place
Middletown, CT 06457
Linda.ring@comcast.net

Nina Fay Calhoun Award (International)

Sandra LaBonte
Altrusa International of the Seacoast
31 Scotland Bridge Rd.
York, ME 03909
Slabone17@aol.com

Newsletter Award

Liisa Budge-Johnson
Altrusa International of Plymouth County
P.O. Box 833
Plymouth, MA 02362
owatasave@yahoo.com

Yearbook Award

Diane Gaynor
Altrusa International of Laconia, NH
10 Edgewater Drive
Gilford, NH 03249
ocd.diane@aol.com

Publicity Award

Susannah Leslie
Altrusa International of Plymouth County
671 Webster Street
Hanover, MA 02339
Rsleslie111@verizon.net

Gabrielle Crepeau Leadership Award

Barbara Parker
Altrusa International of Fall River, MA
31 Courtney Street #2
Fall River, MA 02720
MADAMEPARKER55@aol.com

You must mail** three (3) copies of each award submission.
For the Newsletter award, you must send three (3) copies of three (3)
different newsletters.

Award Submission Deadline: March 15, 2012

**It is possible to send by email, however you MUST SEND 3 COPIES ALSO!

District One Spring Conference Saturday Excursion



Ben & Jerry's Factory Tour



Cold Hollow Cider Mill



Grandview Winery Tasting Room



Cabot Annex



Danforth Pewter

Saturday Excursion includes visits to all of the above plus Lake Champlain Chocolates! \$15.00* per person provides bus transportation, Ben & Jerry's tour fee and tasting fee at Grandview Winery!

This excursion will take place from 1:00 – 5:00 pm on Saturday!

**To keep the cost at \$15.00 per person, a minimum of 50 people must sign up for this event.*



At District One Conference last year, we provided each club with a piece of Vermont tradition; a sap bucket. Don't forget to decorate those buckets and fill them with some of your local goodies! On Saturday night at conference, the sap buckets will be auctioned off with the proceeds to go to a couple of charities. Plymouth County Altrusan, Joan Caddigan will do the honors of being our Auctioneer. For those of you that have not experienced an auction by Joan, you are in for a real treat!

In the event that the Capitol Plaza does not have enough rooms to accommodate our group, we have blocked some rooms at the Comfort Inn & Suites at Maplewood. The rate for the rooms is \$112.49 for a single or double room and it's only 4-5 minutes from the conference. If you need to book your room at the Comfort Inn, the contact number is 802-229-2222 or 800-262-6117. Please mention Altrusa to get the group rate.



MEET YOUR CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS!

MARIA SNETSINGER



Maria joined Altrusa when she returned home from college in 2001. She is a third generation Altrusan, and can remember her grandmother, Maria Broggini, talking about Altrusa conferences and what a wonderful time she had with the ladies and her sister, Carmen Murray. Altrusa is a real family affair for Maria and she's happy to continue the tradition of service to her community. In 2002, Maria became the chair of the communications committee and editor of the club's newsletter, *The Alert*. In 2006, she became the 1st Vice President and was President of the club from 2007 - 2010. This is the second Spring Conference she has hosted and she's excited to see everyone when they arrive in Vermont!

AIMEE FARNUM

Aimee has been an Altrusan since 2007 and after five years, she is still excited and energized to be part of the club! She has been Membership Chair for four years, club Newsletter editor for three years, and is serving on her second term as Board Member. She describes being a part of a group of amazing people that give so generously of themselves as humbling.

Aimee is the proud Aunt of 11 (soon to be 12!) nieces and nephews, and as such, literacy is near and dear to her heart. She is looking forward to hear our conference speaker, Katherine Paterson, share her experiences as a long-time advocate for young readers.

She has enjoyed attending conferences and looks forward to taking a turn at hosting. She, her club and District One have been working diligently at living up to past conferences by providing an educational, fun and rewarding weekend. As an original Vermonter, she is excited to share her beautiful state (yes, she is biased) with all of us!



DISTRICT ONE CONFERENCE MEAL MENU:

- Friday Lunch: Corn Chowder and Cobb Salad with Chopped Chicken, Bacon, Cheddar Cheese, Scallions, Tomatoes and Creamy Mustard Dressing. (Can be prepared vegetarian)
- Friday Dinner: Vermont Stuffed Chicken with Vermont Cheddar Cheese & Cured Ham with a Creamy Apple Cider Sauce, Buttery Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable. (Chef's Choice Vegetarian option available)
- Saturday Breakfast: Breakfast Buffet with Assorted Muffins, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Seasoned Home Fried Potatoes and Assorted Breads and Jams for Toast.
- Saturday Dinner: Prime Rib of Beef Au Jus rubbed with Garlic and Cracked Black Pepper, Horseradish Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable. (Chef's Choice Vegetarian option available)



ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT ONE
Spring Conference Registration
April 26-29, 2012
Host Club – Barre, Vermont



Registration Info – Please Print or Type

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Circle one: Home / Work / Cell

Email _____

Preferred Name on Name Tag _____

Club _____

Please check all that apply for the 2011-2012 year:

<u>CLUB</u>	<u>DISTRICT</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> President	<input type="checkbox"/> Officer
<input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/> Past Gov.
<input type="checkbox"/> Delegate	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alternate	<u>INTERNATIONAL</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Represent.
<input type="checkbox"/> First Timer	<input type="checkbox"/> Officer (Past or Present)
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest	

Registration

Session	Fee	Enclosed
Early Bird Registration (postmarked by 3/19/12)	\$45.00	
Registration (postmarked after 3/20/12)	\$60.00	
On-Site Registration	\$65.00	
Full Meal Package	\$115.00	
Friday Lunch	\$25.00	
Friday Dinner	\$35.00	
Saturday Breakfast	\$20.00	
Saturday Dinner	\$40.00	
Total Registration Fee		\$

Please circle your Friday Dinner choice:

Vermont Stuffed Chicken or Chef's Choice Vegetarian

Please circle your Saturday Dinner choice:

Prime Rib or Chef's Choice Vegetarian

Special Diet? Please describe: _____

Complete registration with all meals, if postmarked by 3/19/12, \$160.00, if postmarked after 3/19/12, total is \$175.00

(Savings on full meal package of \$5.00)

Please use a separate registration form for guests who will be attending meals.

Payment:

Send completed registration form and a check for the total registration. Registration must be postmarked by March 19, 2012 to qualify for early bird discount.

Make Checks Payable to: **Altrusa District One**
 Mail Registrations and Checks to: **Rita Cote, P.O. Box 729, Bar Mills, ME 04004**

To cancel a registration and receive a full refund (less \$10.00 non refundable fee), a written request must be received by the District Treasurer postmarked no later than April 18, 2012. All refunds will be processed within 30 days of the close of the Conference.



CLUB NEWS

Greater Biddeford-Saco Club Has Busy Holiday Season

The Greater Biddeford-Saco club continued with their NAP bag program for needy mothers with 19 bags distributed by December 31st. They also donated a gift basket to the first baby born in 2012 at Southern Maine Medical Center. The club also raised \$417.61 for the Salvation Army's holiday bell ringing effort.

PORTLAND CLUB PREPARING FOR LARGEST FUNDRAISER

Altrusa of Portland, Maine is, once again, preparing for their annual Chili Chowder fest, its largest fundraiser of the year. The event is scheduled for February 12th and will feature over 30 different chilis and chowders!

In other news, the club recently donated 34 cartons of new books to South Sudan. Although delays hindered their arrival, the books finally did arrive and await the completion of a library and school currently being built.

The club also welcomed Governor Susannah Leslie, as she visited them for their January 4th business meeting.

PLYMOUTH COUNTY ALTRUSA HOSTS SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER

The Plymouth County club recently hosted an Antique Appraisal fair which was a great success, despite having been scheduled for the same day as the Patriots conference playoff game! Antique buffs were given the opportunity to have their items praised by professional antique dealers as well as enjoy some wonderful snacks.

The club is currently planning their 2nd annual Fashion Show, schedule for March 4th.



CLUB NEWS

GOVERNOR SUSANNAH LESLIE VISITS BERMUDA CLUB



Governor Susannah and her husband Roger during her November Club visit enjoying an after dinner chat with President Angela Mocklow. Thanks to Marion for organizing a superb evening at Mad Hatter's that was thoroughly enjoyed by members and their guests.

BERMUDA CLUB STAYS BUSY

Altrusa of Bermuda recently raised over \$2,000 with their "Stay at Home Tea" program. This money is used for library refurbishment projects. They are currently finalizing plans for a Bingo Lasagna dinner in March

Got something to share?

Forward club news, photos, and stories to:

Liisa Budge-Johnson
P.O. Box 833
Plymouth, MA 02362
owatasave@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

By Denise Martin, District Membership Committee Chair

It's hard to believe that it is already February and we only have five months left our Altrusa year. Time moves quickly, but there is still plenty of time left to take actions needed within our clubs.

Membership Committees are frequently focused on attracting and bringing in new members. Once a new member is recruited, many experts believe that is when the real work begins for the leadership of an organization. Retaining members is directly related to the strength of your organization and leadership – strengthening one will improve the other. With that in mind, in this communication we will *focus on membership retention, which is vital to maintaining and growing our clubs.* **Having a strategy for retaining members** is equally important as having a strategy for attracting new members. We encourage you all to develop a strategy for membership retention or at least have a discussion about it.

We are all aware that the success of a club is dependent on the membership and how actively they are engaged in the club's initiatives.

Do we take the time to ensure that we understand how each member is thinking and feeling about our club?

The most valuable input we can solicit is directly from our members. We can learn a great deal from all our members; incoming members, currently members and exiting members.

As Presidents and Membership Chairs, the biggest challenge to retaining membership is: the relationship that each member has with the rest of the membership and the organization overall. The better we understand how our members are thinking and feeling, the better we are able to form purposeful relationships with them.

In this issue of the DSB, we will focus on your clubs ability to retain membership, which depends on your club's ability to:

Understand what motivates each person and why each person joined.

It is ideal to do this as a new member is coming into the club. Welcoming them is a perfect time to have this discussion with them and make note of what motivated them to join. To retain them as a member, it is important that club continues to meet one or more of their reasons for joining.

*Be consistent and directed, yet provide for **periodic examination and re-evaluation** of structure, goal statements, and procedure.*

*Provide legitimate **procedures for change** – and be willing to make changes when needed.*

Delegate to all members – make sure the group shares the workload and that all have the opportunity to contribute.

Build **opportunities for increased responsibility and growth** for members ready and willing to take them on.

Be **flexible** and understanding – remember that not everyone can be consistently active due to other commitments in their lives.

Understand that **each member is at a different stage** of development within the club – it is important to be aware of that and consider it versus your expectations of the members.

Create and **nurture a friendly accepting atmosphere** in which all members feel welcome.

Maintain the element of **FUN** at meetings and activities!

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Dgagnon17@roadrunner.com

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Service – Kathleen Didato – Central Connecticut Club

Leadership Development – Sue Hawes – Bangor Club

BRR & Parliamentarian – Sandra Jarvinen – Plymouth County Club

Foundation Liason – Kathy Stasko – New Hampshire Seacoast Club

District Service Bulletin Editor – Liisa Budge-Johnson – Plymouth County Club

WebMaster – Cathy Baybutt – Carroll County Club

Archives – Sandra Labonte – Seacoast Club

New Club Building – Gay Douglas – Northeast Connecticut Club

Shirley Mento – Laconia Club

Joanne Doherty – Portland Club