



NEWSLETTER

ALTRUSA CLUB OF NANAIMO

Spring 2022

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“SUPPORTING WOMEN, CHILDREN AND LITERACY”

CALENDAR

MAY

- Present and adopt new Budget
- Install New Board of Directors
- Review Task List and Calendar
- Members submit dues & volunteer hours
 - District Conference
 - StoryWalk May 14 & 15

JUNE

- Annual General Meeting
- Volunteers review and close books
- Submit dues & update roster
- Spring Garden Tour Jun 12th
 - Submit Annual report
 - Update website

JULY

- Submit BC Societies Annual Report
- Social get-together for present and past members at Alexandras

AUGUST

- Treasurer – submits previous year’s Gaming Report by Aug 31 and works on next year’s Gaming Application by Nov 30th.
- Pot Luck Lunch at Pat Wagars garden/home

ON-GOING

- Library Book delivery, Haven weeding & garden care, care bags, new member initiations, speakers, newsletter submissions, fundraisers, media coverage.



MONTHLY MEETINGS

BOARD MEETINGS

- 1st Tuesday
 - 2:00 p.m.
- Members’ homes or ZOOM

BUSINESS MEETINGS

- 2nd Tuesday
- 1:00 p.m. Zoom or VI Regional Library - North 6250 Hammond Bay Rd

LUNCH SOCIALS

- 3rd Tuesday
 - Noon
- Nanaimo Golf Club
2800 Highland Blvd



BIRTHDAY GIRLS!

Donna Y – Apr 19
Claudia S - Apr 26

Pat N – Jun 1

Louise - Jul 20

Shirley – Aug 22
Joyce – Aug 24
Ann – Aug 25
Vivien – Aug 29

We gratefully acknowledge the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.

Coldest Night of the Year

On February 26, we had 8 brave angels walking in the cool rain to raise money for Coldest Night of the Year! They raised a whopping \$6200 for Nanaimo. The nationwide *“Coldest Night of the Year”* walk is a winterrific family-friendly walk to raise money for local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger... Our *“Altrusa Angels”* are Donna, Jan W, Roberta, Vicki, Cheryl, Keri (a friend of Altrusa), Sharen and Val.



FAMILY FUN NIGHT

On February 28, six members assembled 40 bags of educational games. Each game was labelled with an Altrusa sticker and each bag contained 5 items: Bingo, Candyland, Uno, science kit (magnet, magnifying glass, tape measure & instructions) and 2 or 3 additional card games.

The bags were given to a Community School Coordinator (Susan) from Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools. She has kindly agreed to pass the bags on to Child Youth & Family Support Workers at local schools. The CYFSWs, in turn, will distribute the bags to our city's most vulnerable students.

And we've already received feedback!

From the children:

- Wow, Candyland. I love that game!
- Whoa, you got this for my family? We're going to have so much fun!
- I can't believe someone would take the time to make this for our family!

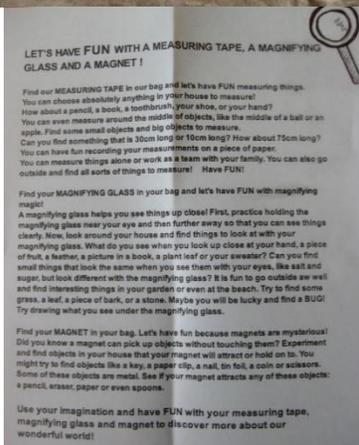
From a parent:

- I cannot thank you enough for the package. We played all the games tonight. I really appreciate it and my son loved it too.

From a Child Youth & Family Support Worker:

- Please tell (Altrusans) what joy and excitement the families had. I gave one to a new refugee family who had never seen some of the games and I got the chance to teach them. So incredible learning and bonding opportunity.

Feedback like this makes us proud to be Altrusans – and grateful to partner with the Public Schools. We're applying for a \$4800 grant from the Canada Post Community Foundation this month for 80 more packs! We should know by August so we can start Phase 2!



Our game night team (Janice S, Cheryl, Janice G, Val, Zoe Ann, Louise, Claudia, Pat F, Jan W).

Project Re-Entry



Karina S is our latest recipient of our Project Re-entry Award. She will use the \$1000 award to finish her practicum placements in Early Childhood Education. Good luck Karina!



**Monthly Lunch Meeting
Tuesday, March 15th
Great Food, Great Company!!**



Once again, the Nanaimo Golf Club served up a wonderful lunch for all of us. After lunch we heard Elspeth from ICCS (Island Crisis Care Society) tell us all about the amazing things they are doing with new housing as well as their project “Rise”. Rise is the former Nanaimo Bakery. ICCS has taken over the bakery and are currently remodeling it. Soon, it will operate as a fully functioning bakery with their clients as staff to operate the business and to provide training to help them get back into the work force.

What a fabulous project! We can’t wait until it opens again so we can purchase all of those delicious treats.



Linda and Cheryl dropping off well needed supplies to ICCS for their residents in the new building.

Our 2022-2023 Board



Back Row - Verena-Director, Ann-Secretary, Roberta-Co-Vice President,
Trudi-Past President and new Treasurer, Janice G-Director
Front Row - Linda-Co-President, Vicki-Co-President, Holly-Co-Vice President.
Missing: Sharen P - Director



It was Muffin delivery time again!



We always have wonderful support from our membership on this project. We had 23 bakers and delivered 110 dozen muffins to Georgia Avenue School on March 7th. That should help keep those little tummies satisfied until the fall when we do it all over again. Special thanks to Verena and Nicole who organized and gathered everyone together to accept the muffins for delivery. Also, thanks to everyone who baked. Well done everyone!

Above is just a few of the gang who met at the shopping centre parking lot. L-R Nicole, Verena, Jan W, Marean, Trudi, Joyce, Roberta and Zoe Ann.

Haven Crew was back at it.

The Weed Wenches were back at Haven last week tackling the never-ending task of weed removal and spring cleanup. Thanks to Roberta, Jan W, Cheryl, Sharen and Janice G. You ladies always work so hard to make the gardens beautiful for everyone to enjoy.



Purge, Purge, Purge



A few of us got together at Marean's house to help clean up years and years' worth of Altrusa display boards and memorabilia. It was a big job but we got through the majority of it. This is only a small portion of what was to be recycled, removed, and delegated. Special thanks to Marean's son who brought it all out of the crawl space and up to the main floor for us to go through.

The "Bastion Books" (two of them) were made by a former member Dorothy G and her husband, Joe. The covers and likeness of the Bastion were made of wood and hand painted. The contents were several pages of photos, newspaper clippings and memorabilia that Dorothy had collected and saved over the years. Dorothy joined Altrusa in 1953. It was fun looking through the books and hearing the stories from our members. Marean, Janice S, Holly, Cheryl & Verena (taking the photo)





Our Commemorative Blanket has found a new home

We were looking for a special place to gift our Commemorative blanket, and now we have it. This blanket was made in the 70's as a fundraiser for the Port Theatre. At that time, Altrusa was the only non-profit club to attempt to raise \$100,000 for the blue curtains on the stage. It took 5 years to raise enough money. Selling 100 of these blankets for \$100 each kick-started our fundraising. The photos were taken by one of our members and sent to the weaver who created the blankets. All of the images are important landmarks and a part of Nanaimo's history.



Ronell at Samaritan Place has graciously accepted our Commemorative blanket from Cheryl and will proudly hang it in their new facility.

Janice S also delivered 8 more quilts that were hand made by the Nanaimo Quilters Guild.

Sleep tight ladies.



From Ronnell at Samaritan Place:

This was such a great gift from Altrusa.

We do appreciate the donations and quilts. Thank you for supporting us with so much compassion. Thank you for the attached picture. Kind regards,

A returning Altrusan...



“I’m happily married to Frank LoPinto. Between us we have 5 children. I have 2 grown sons who both live in Nanaimo and Frank has 3 children, a daughter in Maryland and 2 sons in Seattle. We have 7 grandchildren between us. Two in Maryland, and 4 here in Nanaimo. In the past I fostered teen boys for 6 years. Some have kept in touch.

Hope to contribute to Altrusa this year in the good that you do”.

Warm regards,

Cathy

Special Deliveries to Haven

Michelle from Haven accepts women's (from Cheryl and Judy) sleepwear, socks & undergarments to have available for women in crisis. Janice S also dropped off 15 care bags for the children. We typically donate about 30 of these a year. These special bags for the children include a stuffy, crayons and felt pens, pencil, an activity book, a toothbrush and toothpaste. Donations are from Lantzville Dentist and friends as well as Altrusa funds.



I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.
Maya Angelou

Happy Birthday to US!!!

At our lunch meeting on April 19th, we celebrated our 69th birthday. The Golf Club graciously baked a delicious strawberry cake to help us celebrate. And, since it was our first meeting in Spring 2022, we all donned our hats and had a party.



We also recognised four members and their service anniversaries to Altrusa. Margaret received a lovely potted plant to congratulate her on **40 years** as a member of Altrusa. Sharen (10 yrs), Trudi and Roberta (each with 5 yrs) received spring bouquets. Congratulations ladies!



Michelle S and Susan M (with Janice S and Jan W) were our guests for our Spring Luncheon. They are from the Nanaimo Ladysmith Public School District. They were very instrumental in assisting us in our “Game Night” project. They distributed the “Game Night” bags to the care workers who provided them to the families with the most need. It was a very successful project and we hope to do it all again in the fall when/if we receive the Grant funds.

**7th ANNUAL
ALTRUSA GARDEN TOUR**

Sunday, June 12, 2022

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM



**\$20 TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:
Cash only**

GREEN THUMB GARDEN CENTRE	6261 HAMMOND BAY ROAD	250-758-0944
KC'S BOUTIQUE & PETITES	5771 TURNER ROAD	250-751-7799
LITTLE TREE GARDEN CENTER	2517 BOWEN ROAD	250-585-0244
TURLEY'S FLORIST	60 TERMINAL AVENUE	250-754-6344
JANIE'S GOT A BUS*	janie@janiesbus.ca	250-714-2855

*transportation available at an additional cost

SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF 6 LOVELY GARDENS
FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT WOMEN, CHILDREN AND LITERACY IN NANAIMO

ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL OF NANAIMO

Roberta: 250-758-6783 or keberta@shaw.ca
Donna: 250-618-1036 or 4donnayoung@gmail.com



Until next time, be well, stay well.