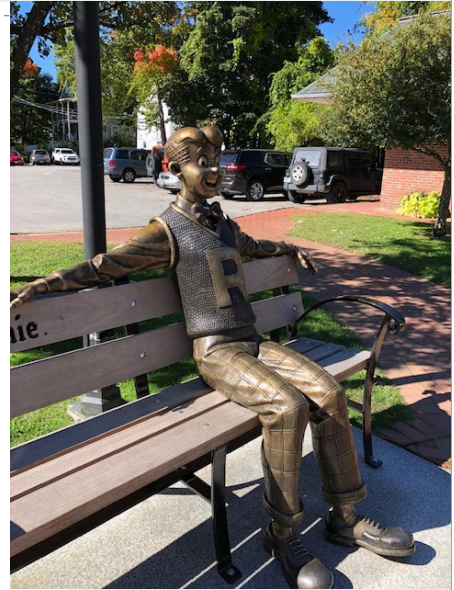




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THE LINK



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To my Altrusa Sisters:

New challenges, new opportunities, New Year!

2018 saw changes to our membership. We changed the way we did a few things – it just goes to show how versatile we are and how willing we are to try new things.

It amazed me when I first joined Meredith's Altrusa Club how organized and talented our membership was. And I continue to be amazed by the caring and willingness of my sisters to share their talents and knowledge which only strengthens all of us and our club.

New challenges: Bring them on. As a group, we can solve them which will also lead to ...

New opportunities: Continue to look for them and bring them on. Reach out for potential members, continue to look for ways our help is needed in the community, continue to be positive volunteer role models, continue to share your strengths and talents and continue to step up to lead in our various projects, committees and events because it's a ...

New Year: May our challenges be few and our opportunities many. May we continue to be a force needed and respected in this community that we all love and most of all, may we all have a blessed, happy and healthy 2019.

Kathy LaPoint

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**CELEBRATING 101 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE,
THE ALTRUSA CLUB OF MEREDITH
PROUDLY PARTICIPATES IN THE TOWN OF MEREDITH
250TH ANNIVERSARY PARADE ON
AUGUST 12, 2018**

Members on the float include facing the camera Monica Bennett, Kelly Bennett and Linda French; not shown but on the other side of the truck are Paula Trombi, Jodi Wilson and Barbara Goren.

It was Altrusa International's 101th Anniversary, so the theme concept was to dress as Dalmatians.

A special thank you to both Nick Leighton who provided the truck and to Steve Bennett for driving.

**ALTRUSA INTERNATIONAL BIDDEFORD-SACO
DISTRICT ONE WORKSHOP
NOVEMBER 3, 2018**



Hilda Schmidt (former President of the Meredith NH Club and current President of the Central CT Club) with Carol Gerken of the Meredith NH Club.



CONFERENCE PARADE OF CLUB PRESIDENTS WITH THEIR CLUB FLAGS.

Laurie Brothers is holding the Meredith NH flag.

2018 PEMI-BAKER SPELLING BEE



Continuing with Altrusa's 101st Anniversary theme this year,
the Altrusa team dressed as dalmatians.

Contestants in the 2018 Spelling Bee were
Jodi Wilson, Linda French and Karen Truberg.



POET LAUREATE 2018

New Hampshire Poet Laureate Alice B. Fogel visited the Interlakes Schools in April, sponsored by grants from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, Meredith Altrusa International Club and the Heart & Hands Thrift Shop.

An Evening with Alice was held on April 12, 2018 as a public community event sponsored by Altrusa of Meredith.

NEW ALTUSA MEMBER JODY HOUGH



CAROL GERKEN
WELCOMES OUR
NEWEST MEMBER,
JODY HOUGH,
JUNE 19 AT
MOULTON FARM.



*JOHN MOULTON
OF MOULTON FARMS IN
MEREDITH SPEAKS
WITH MEMBERS
PRIOR TO A FUN
WAGON RIDE AROUND
THE FARM.*

LEADERSHIP, PARTNERSHIP AND SERVICE SERIES

As part of the October Leadership, Partnership and Service Series, Hospitality Co-Chairs Vickie Carty and Carol Gerken invited Ann Sprague, Director of Interlakes Community Caregivers to speak with members about the many wonderful services provided to the community by their volunteers.



RECIPE CORNER

SOUTHWESTERN CHICKEN CORN CHOWDER

From the Horsefeathers Restaurant in North Conway, NH

1½ lbs potatoes, diced
3 cups chicken stock, divided
(Kitchen Basics brand)
4 tablespoons butter
4 stalks celery, diced
2 medium onions, diced
1 red pepper, diced
½ tbl. chili powder
1 tsp. cayenne pepper
1 tsp. cumin
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. pepper
1 tsp. garlic powder
½ cup flour
1¾ lbs cooked chicken, cut in pieces
2 cans cream style corn
2 cups light cream
1 bay leaf

Sauté diced potatoes in small amount of the chicken stock for about 10 minutes. You may need to add a little more stock or water as the potatoes cook so they do not stick to the pan. Set aside.

Sauté celery, onions, pepper and spices (except the bay leaf) in the butter until tender. Be sure to stir so they don't stick to the pan. Add flour to make a roux and cook about 5 minutes.

Add remaining chicken stock & bay leaf and stir until somewhat thickened. Cook about 15 minutes. Add potatoes, chicken, cream corn and light cream.

Cook on low heat, stirring occasionally for about 2 hours, so flavors have a chance to do their thing! I use a large crock pot.

ALTRUSA MEMBERS WHO PASSED AWAY DURING 2018



Adrienne Stevens— October 29, 2018

Adrienne was a member and past president of the Laconia Altrusa Club who was also a founding member of the Meredith Altrusa Club. Adrienne also served as a district governor for Altrusa International. Attendees at her memorial service released bubbles into the air in tribute to Adrienne.



Judith Ann (Judi) Dunlap— November 22, 2018

Judi volunteered tirelessly with many community organizations including the Meredith Altrusa Club plus launching the Carroll County Altrusa Club. This year, the Harley Davidson Motorcycle Owners Group entered a Christmas tree in the Festival of Trees in memory of Judi, who was a member of their group.

GONE FROM MY SIGHT

by
Henry Van Dyke

I am standing upon the seashore. A ship, at my side,
spreads her white sails to the moving breeze and starts
for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength.
I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck
of white cloud just where the sea and sky come to mingle with each other.

Then, someone at my side says, "There, she is gone."

Gone where?

Gone from my sight. That is all. She is just as large in mast,
hull and spar as she was when she left my side.
And, she is just as able to bear her load of living freight to her destined port.
Her diminished size is in me —not in her.

And, just at the moment when someone says, "There, she is gone,"
there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices
ready to take up the glad shout, "Here she comes!"

And that is dying ...

"Gone From My Sight," also known as the "Parable of Immortality" and "What Is Dying" is a poem (or prose poem) attributed to the Rev. Luther F. Beecher (1813-1903), cousin of Henry Ward Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe.

At least three publications credit the poem to Rev. Beecher in printings shortly after his death in 1904: *Northwestern Christian Advocate*, July 13, 1904; *Religious Telescope*, Vol. 70, August 21, 1904; *Attica Daily Ledger*, October 26, 1904.

THANKS FOR GIVING DINNER AT HART'S RESTAURANT



101st BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



101st BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



FESTIVAL OF TREES 2018

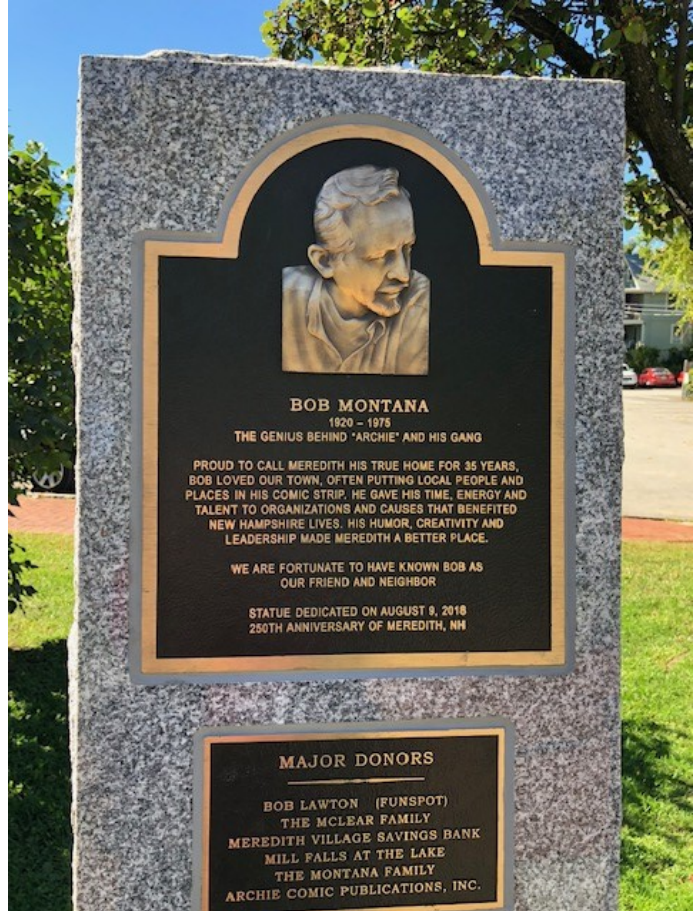


ALTRUSA CLUB OF MEREDITH DONATES TOYS



Altrusa members Vickie Carty and Carol Gerken gather donated toys from Jacqueline Taylor of The Edwards Jones Investment office at 14 Main Street in Meredith which was a drop off location for the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots Program.

OTHER HAPPENINGS AROUND MEREDITH



STATUE DEDICATED TO BOB MONTANA

A Statue dedicated to long time Meredith resident Bob Montana creator of the Archie Comic Strip from 1942 to 1975. The Greater Meredith Program, another non-profit group in Meredith, commissioned the bronze statue for Meredith's 250th Anniversary. A dedication ceremony took place on August 9, 2018 at the Community Park on Main Street in downtown Meredith.

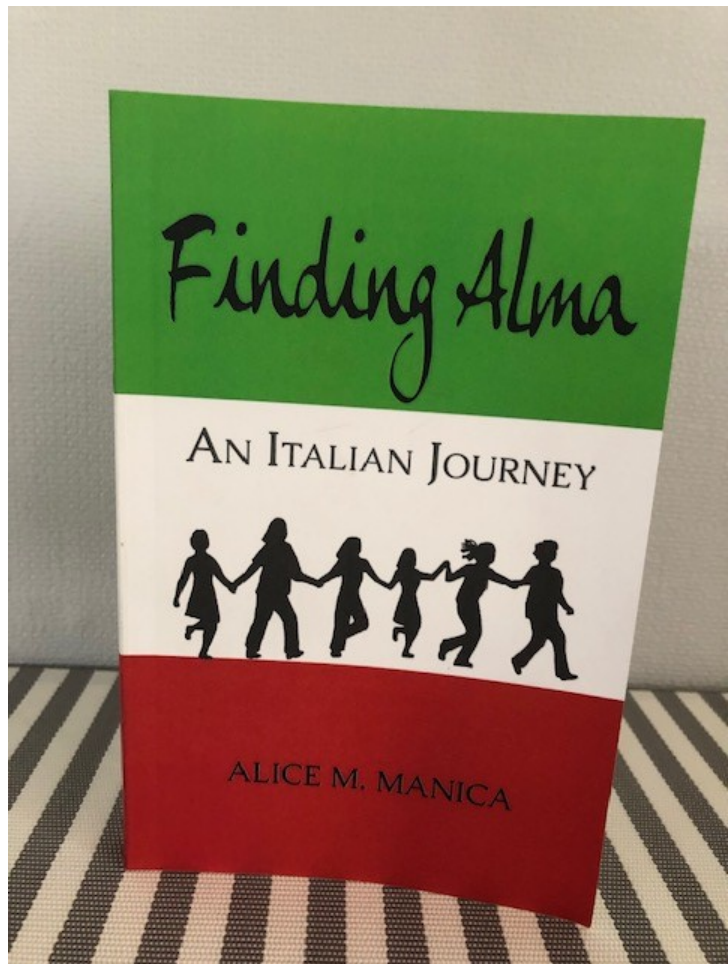
BOOK REVIEW

FINDING ALMA—AN ITALIAN JOURNEY

By ALICE M. MANICA

Book recommendation by Kathy Bagley

Finding Alma takes the reader on a wonderful coming of age adventure that begins in Italy during the early 1970s. Although Alma's Grandfather emigrated to America as a young man, he kept in touch with his sister, brothers and numerous relatives who remained in Italy. Pleased to learn of Alma's upcoming backpacking trip to Europe with a planned stop over in her Grandfather's hometown of SALÒ in the Lake Garda region of Northern Italy, he arranged for Alma to stay at the family home. The Morelli family welcomed Alma with open arms. Despite growing up in America and the many related cultural differences, Alma quickly becomes very close to five similar-aged Italian girl cousins: Gianna, Novella, Veronica, Catrina and Kara. That visit to Italy and time spent with the extended family had a remarkable life-long impact on Alma's life. Alice Manica has an amazing ability to develop robust characters whose life stories could stand alone. *Finding Alma* is a tale of love, family, inspiration and the courage to pursue personal dreams despite life's challenges.



2016 Alice M. Manica