



Newcomers News

Published by the Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse
(Antrim - Benzie - Grand Traverse - Kalkaska - Leelanau)

OCTOBER
2006

DATES TO
REMEMBER

NEXT MONTH'S PROGRAM
November 13

BOARD MEETING
October 16

BOOK CLUB
October 3

BRIDGE
*Team - 1st Friday
Ladies - 2nd Thurs.
Ladies - 4th Thurs.
Mixed Party - Oct. 20*

EUCHRE
*Group 1 - 2nd Wed.
Group 2 - 1st Thurs.*

GAMES
October 2

GOLF
October 2, 16

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH
October 18

MEN'S BREAKFAST
October 10

SINGLES
October 13

WALK IN THE WOODS
October 14

Find us
on the web:
gtnewcomers.org

Please join us for the October program:

CHATEAU CHANTAL BECKONS

VINTNER MARK JOHNSON TO HOST NEWCOMERS

Tuesday, October 24, at the renowned
Old Mission Peninsula winery,
Chateau Chantal, from 7- 9 PM

This tour will include a winemaking orientation from esteemed vintner Mark Johnson, a tour of the spacious facilities including the wine cellar processing center, and the "B&B" if rooms are vacant. It will conclude with the opportunity to socialize and to enjoy wine tasting and gourmet cheese platters in the Chateau Chantal "Hospitality Room." Fresh-baked bread will arrive in time to meet the returning tour guests.

Purchase of wines will, of course, be optional. Some bottles of the rare and tasty ice wine may still be available.

Chateau Chantal is located in one of the most beautiful locations high in Old Mission Peninsula with views of both bays and the vineyards.

The cost to members is only **\$5** per person. Don't miss this special first event of the season (with many more to follow).

Take Center Road (M 37) on Old Mission Peninsula for twelve miles to the Chateau Chantal sign on the right and follow the yellow brick road.

Reservations are not required, but it would be helpful to have a count. If you know in advance that you can attend, please call Karen Spencer at 941-5045.
The \$5 fee can be paid at the door.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

OCTOBER 2006

Now that October is upon us, the Grand Traverse area has become ablaze in fall colors. I hope that all of you have been able to get out and enjoy this once a year fling with mother nature.



By the time you receive this newsletter, our fall kickoff dinner at the Hagerty Center will have come and gone. Many thanks to our Co-Vice Presidents, Bud Dockter and Brad Spencer, and to our Executive Assistant, Elaine Novak, for their time and efforts in making this dinner a tremendous success.

Representatives from our activity groups were at the dinner and I hope that all of you were able to find several activities to your liking. It is through our activity groups that members become acquainted and new friendships are born. A complete listing of our activity group leaders can be found on page 3 in last month's newsletter, so please don't hesitate to contact them directly as it's never too late to sign up to enjoy a fun activity.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at the October program at Chateau Chantal Winery on Old Mission Peninsula on October 24. The November program, the Newcomers annual auction, will be held on Monday night, November 13, so please be thinking of interesting items that you can donate to the club for auctioning off that evening.

Matt Albert

Please help recruit members!

Know someone who has just moved to the area? Contact **Sharon Finch, City Hostess**, with their names and she will do the rest.

947-8403, hsfinchtc@aol.com



Membership Directory

The 2006-2007 Newcomer Directory will be published in October. Your dues must be received on or before October 11 for you to be included. Later payment of dues results in membership information being printed and distributed as an addendum to the Directory. If you need to make a change or update your information, please call our membership chair, Karen Spenser.

The Directory will be mailed again this year. Returning members, please save your folder to be re-used. Members joining for the first time will receive a complete Directory folder. If you have questions about the Directory, want your picture taken or need to submit a picture, contact Lori Brickman.

New Member Corner



Jim & Rose Neibauer (**Stevensville, MI**)
Muriel Jones (**Rochester Hills, MI**)
Mark & Carolyn Smith (**Grand Rapids, MI**)
James & Marilyn Mayo (**Pittsburg, PA**)
Alfred Sams & Dandan Zhu (**Lubbock, TX**)
Ed & Susan Canright (**Battle Creek, MI**)
Mary Tremblay (**Dayton, OH**)
Lois Goldstein & John Heiam (**Oak Park, IL**)
Sue King (**Santa Rosa, CA**)
Bep Hendrickson (**Mercer Island, WA**)
Thomas & Bonnie McKeirnan
(**Woodbridge, VA**)

JUST DO IT!

This summer Jody and I have been leading a series of kayak/canoe outings. I thought that I would report on the latest venture so that club members can see how much fun we have and might plan to join us next season. But whatever the Newcomer Club activity is, there's a lot of fun to be had with new friends. Just get out there and do it!

The outing (paddle) started at the Torch River DNR boat launch near Rapid City. As is our usual habit, Jody and I showed up early to make sure everything at the launch was okay. This time we got a huge surprise. The launch was blocked by a huge pile of rubble on top of mud! A DNR crew was tearing out the old ramp so that it could be replaced with a new (and better) access.

A half-dozen men were working on the project. We talked to the guy in charge and told him we had 14 other people who were going to soon arrive and that we had hoped to launch there. He and the rest of the crew went into action! They told us to park anywhere that would be away from truck traffic and began hauling away the old concrete from the ramp. The shovel operator then very thoughtfully eliminated the deep ruts by smoothing out an access for the paddlers to slide their boats into the water. True, it was still a muddy mess, but at least we could reach the water without having to climb over a mountain of concrete rubble.

When the rest of the paddlers showed up (12 kayaks and one tandem canoe), the access was muddy but usable. Before launching, however, we sang Happy Birthday to **Lori Brickman** and tied balloons to her kayak so she wouldn't forget the special occasion. (See photos on p. 6.)

One of the DNR workers was in a wet suit helping to locate the underwater concrete that needed to be removed. He got in the water and helped the paddlers get their boats over a float in the water. There were no mishaps, and the entry into the water went smoothly. Kudos to the DNR and the crew that made the outing possible.

After we got on the river, as is our practice, Jody led the group upstream to the entry to Torch Lake. As usual, I brought up the rear to assure that we didn't lose any paddlers. As a bonus for the group, we had asked **Lois Goldstein**, a very experienced paddler and great teacher, to join us and provide instructional assistance. We appreciate that she was able to help out several of the members. We turned around at Torch Lake and proceeded downstream almost to the entry of Lake Skegemog. Because of the time, most of us turned around at that point and returned to the launch site. **Joe Harris** sped ahead so he could assist others exit their boats on the slippery mud. We spent a very enjoyable hour and forty-five minutes on the water in the sunshine.

Because of a previous obligation, I had to leave the group at that time. Undaunted, most of the others continued on to lunch at Travino's, Jody again in the lead. Just so you know, lunch is an integral and important part of this whole process. Exercise and nourishment, together a lot of fun, is what we strive for. You don't have to take my word for it; ask anyone who was there: **Ralph and Lori Brickman, Carole Groves, Mark Kupferer, Alan and Fran Westerholm, Bob and Cindy Clement, Joe Harris, Ron and Edie Kuhn, Stan and Dorothy Cain, and Lois Goldstein.**

Bob Luoma
Staff Reporter

Activity Group News

Activity groups: All of our Fall Activity Groups are busy with many different choices of activities for our members to become involved in, meet new friends and have fun. If you missed signing up for any of our Activity Groups at the Fall Kickoff Dinner, call the group leader of the activity you are interested in, or contact me. (A list of the groups and this year's chairs is on page 3 of the September issue. If you don't have a copy of it, look for it on the web.) Please contact the chairs if you have any questions about their activities.

I would like to thank our group leaders; without them we would not have the variety of groups that the Newcomers Club offers. If you have ideas for new groups or questions, please let me know.

Susanne Bonner 932-0943 susannebonner@aol.com

BOOK CLUB



Tuesday, October 3, 10:00 AM

Join the Book Club Discussion Group this month. All members are welcome.

The October selection is *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards, a riveting novel about a doctor who is forced by a blizzard to deliver his own twins. Says Luanne Rice, "Kim Edwards writes with great wisdom and compassion.....This is a wonderful, heartbreaking, heart-healing novel."

We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am in the lower level of the **Horizon Book Store**. Please contact Letha Cairns for questions at 231-271-6831 or gcairns@chartermi.net.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesday, October 10, 9:00 AM

The Men's Breakfast meets at the **Omelette Shoppe** next to the Wild Birds Unlimited store in Campus Plaza the second Wednesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. Reservations are not required; just show up. Questions? Call George Kobernus, 933-9321.

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, October 18, 1:00 PM

Join the "Out-to-Lunch Bunch" in the **Loose Moose Cottage Dining Room, Great Wolf Lodge**, located on 3575 North U.S. 31 (between Meijers and Kohls). Call Gloria Brown, 947-5318, for reservations by October 13.

SINGLES

Friday, October 13, 7:00 PM

Singles Planning Meeting

Join the Singles Group at the home of Judy Owen for popcorn and a movie. We will also be planning activities for the coming year; so bring your ideas or email them to jdavis4798@aol.com. Call Judy Owen, 922-9619, or Joanne Davis, 922-9672, for directions.

DINNER OUT

Sunday, October 15, 5:00 PM

Join us at the **Boathouse**, 14039 Peninsula Dr., TC. Enjoy the beautiful drive to an exclusive sunset dining experience on Bowers Harbor West Bay! Please RSVP to Constance Kilbride, 649-4888, by Monday, October 9, if possible. (Later reservations are usually not turned away, but the restaurant needs to know an approx. number a week before.) All are welcome.

DINNER FOR 8

If you were unable to attend the Fall Kickoff dinner, please call Laurie or Mark Kupferer, 231-256-8892. The Dinner for Eight schedule will be announced in the November newsletter. See the September newsletter for a description of this activity.



**HAPPY
HALLOWEEN!**

GOLF

There are still two more days of Newcomers golf this season. We do not use handicaps or keep any scores. You form your own foursomes with the golfers who show up. Call (938-1705) or email me (rchtcmi1@aol.com) before we play on the following Monday, 1:00, 9 holes:

OCT. 2 BAY MEADOWS - 946 7927

OCT. 16 GRANDVIEW - 258-3244

There are two for one coupons available in the following coupon books: GOLF MICHIGAN PLAYBOOK, MICHIGAN GOLF SAVERS. Check at each course to see if they offer senior rates.

A WALK IN THE WOODS

Saturday, October 14, 11:00 AM

High Banks Rollway

Bring your mother, father, children, grandchildren, and even your dog on a leash. Walks will last between one and two hours. Please email wallacerg1@yahoo.com or call Ron Wallace (231-222-0600, cell 231-590-2746) so you can be notified later if a walk has to be cancelled. Last minute joiners are welcome too.

Directions to trail head: Take Garfield Rd. to Kingsley. Go straight south after stop at M113 (if going east on M113 go right at the blinker) and turn right on Fenton Road. Turn left at Blackman Rd. Go to dead end at County Line Rd. and turn right. When pavement takes a sharp right, see Scenic Overlook sign on left side. Follow the dirt road. When you come to a Y, go to the left, then meander south and east (stay on mainly used road). You will come to a sign for Overlook Parking lot (1.4 miles from pavement). To get there from Buckley, go east at the light until you dead end at No.17 Rd. Turn right. Go to No. 4 Rd. Turn left and stay on this til sharp left. See Scenic Overlook sign straight ahead.

Correction for Sept. 30 outing: new phone # for Carole Groves, the walk leader, 231-492-4567. Wally Chappel from the Grand Traverse Ed. Reserve will accompany the group.

?????????

If you do not see an activity for an established group you are interested in, it's probably because there is nothing scheduled for the current month. If you do not see that a group is established for something you are interested in, contact Suzanne Bonner, 932-0943, susannebonner@aol.com.

CARDS



BRIDGE:

NEW!!! Mixed Party Bridge: All levels welcome. No need for a partner Different host each month. Contact RICHARDRBODETTE@cs.com or 271-7524. First one will be **Friday, October 20th**. Rick and Kathy Bodette 1830 S Cherry Blossom Lane, Suttons Bay, 7:00 PM.

Team: (Sept. 8): Tom or Georgia Stoeber, 938-5846, tstoeber@bsamail.org., 7:00 p.m., Cedar Creek Commons off of Cherry Bend Road.

Ladies (2nd Thursday): Nancy Ravas, 932-1747, Scott's Harbor Grill, 11:30 a.m. Players at all levels are welcome.

Ladies (4th Thursday): Gail Hoffman, 946-1126, Restaurant 310, 11:30 a.m. Participants play as individuals.

EUCHRE:

Euchre is strong and lively in the Newcomers Group. We started our first Euchre groups last Fall 2005. At this time we have two groups playing euchre. Both groups are filled to capacity including the sub lists, and no one wants to give it up! Yet, we still have those who would love to play euchre once a month.

Group #1: 2nd Wednesday of the Month

Group Leader: Karen and Mike Coquillard 932-9883

Group#2: 1st Thursday of the Month

Group Leader: Patti and Tom Custance 935-4805

If you are interested in playing Euchre and/or being a group leader for Group #3, please contact Karen Coquillard at 932-9883. Groups #1 and #2 are presently at full capacity. This is not a difficult task and you will make wonderful friends and have a ton of fun!

JOIN IN THE GAMES

Monday, October 2. 7:00 PM

What games? Open a new or favorite board game. Roll the dice. Shuffle the cards. First Monday of the month starting October 2, 7:00 p.m. Mixed group, come as a single or as a pair. Depending on group size, one or more games can be played. Size limited to 12-16 people. We'll talk about what you want to do the first night. Bring your favorite game idea. Would you teach a game you've enjoyed? Call for more information: Carole Groves, 231-492-4567.

Newcomer Information

Audit Assistance Requested

The bylaws of the Newcomers Club require that its financial records be audited every year. The Board is seeking volunteer assistance for this task.

If anyone is willing to participate in the process, please contact Matt Albert, President, or Joe Harris, Treasurer.

LIFE Academy at NMC

An often overlooked gem in this area is the LIFE Academy at NMC. It provides programs of lifelong learning designed for adults age 55 and over. The Academy offers unique learning experiences that will inspire and challenge you. Residents of Grand Traverse County who are 62+ pay a reduced price. Partial scholarships are also available.

Classes are non-credit and may meet once or once a week for several weeks. Others may be lunches with speakers or dinners with entertainment. Many classes are in the traditional classroom setting, but others meet outdoors, in the gym, or at instructors' studios. Brush up on your computer skills, study various artists, learn about identity theft prevention, learn to knit, improve your fitness, discuss books and authors, etc., etc., etc.

Call **995-1700** for more information. You won't believe the variety of learning experiences that are available.

Editor's note: Hopefully the time required to produce this newsletter will be reduced after taking several classes later this fall.

Please send news, articles, letters, or ads to the newsletter editor at bennettjj@charter.net or 932-9249 (ph and fax). The deadline for the November newsletter is October 15.

Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center:

What's the Difference?

Why Do We Need 2 Buildings?

Sorry, we can't answer the second question and wouldn't, even if we thought we could. The first question is easier. While there is some overlap, there is a difference between the two organizations.



Visitor Center

More accurately known as the Traverse City Convention and Visitor Bureau (TCCVB), the building is on the corner of Union and Grandview Pkwy. TCCVB is concerned with attracting tourists to this region and being supportive of them once they get here.



Chamber of Commerce

The Traverse Area Chamber of Commerce is on the corner of Grandview Pkwy. and Cass St. It is concerned with attracting business to this region and being supportive of businesses that are already here.

Newcomer Fun



Hmmm... so where's the ramp?
Piles of concrete presented a barrier to Newcomer paddlers waiting to launch on the Torch River, but helpful DNR workers got busy and created a temporary access for the group.



A wet-suited DNR worker is ready to help paddlers get over the float at the "under construction" Torch River access.



Newcomer flotilla on the Torch River: It wasn't easy getting into and out of the access, but the paddling was well worth the effort. Sunshine, warm temperatures, and a gentle breeze made for a great time.



Happy Birthday, Lori Brickman!
Lori finally got to paddle her new boat on the Torch River on her birthday, September 14.

September Euchre Report

Groups 1 and 2 came together on September 4th at Tom and Patti Custance's home for a delicious potluck, fun conversation and, of course, a Euchre showdown. After plying Group 1 with food and Sangria, Group 2 came out victorious. Group 1 graciously accepted defeat and looks forward to another contest. The score was 105 - 100.



Request for photos:

Activity leaders and camera bugs: please send photos to the editor, preferably by email at bennettjj@charter.net. They may not all be published; the goal is to present an overview of what's going on and who's involved.

Patronize our sponsors

Allstate Insurance

Mike Cox Agency, Kalkaska
258-3252, 866-344-3252 (free)

Ameriprise Financial

William Lee, 935-1457, x19
3337 S. Airport Rd. W., #4, TC

Associates in Family Dentistry

Joseph M. Stayman, D.D.S.
4020 W. Royal Dr., TC
946-9644

Auntie Pasta's Restaurant

2030 S. Airport Rd. , TC
(Logan's Landing) 941-8147

R. W. Baird & Co. Investments

1001 Bay St. , TC, 933-6050

Banfield Pet Hospital

2544 Crossing Circle (next to
Pet Smart), TC 922-9844

BATA- Public Transportation

3233 Cass Rd., TC 941-2324

Bob's Furnace Svcs.

2282 Cass Rd. , TC 941-4064

Castle Carpet Care (& Upholstery)

2801 Castle Dr., Interlochen.,
276-2118

Climatron Htg. & Air Cond.

3055 Cass Rd., Ste. 108, TC
946-9650

Companion Animal Hospital

1885 Chartwell Dr, TC
935-1511

The Copy Shop - Printers

514 E. Front St. 947-2080
525W. 14th St. 941-9160

The Dance Center

225 E. 14th St. TC 947-6820

Dave's Garage

Foreign & Domestic
911 Hastings, TC 933-0215

East Bay Family Dentistry

Jan Manning D.D.S.
862 Munson Ave 946-4443

Edward Jones Investments

Briant Sikorski, 947-3032
12930 So. West Bay Shore, TC

Epiphany Hair Salon

518 E Front St., TC 933-8010
3779 M-72, Acme, 933-8010

Exit Realty/Paramount

Brian Hagerty, 946-4404,
cell 645-8185
313 E. Front St #104, TC

Gaudette & Co CPA's

1107 East 8th St. 946-8930

Goodyear Auto Service Center

436 W. Front St. 922-2600

G.T. Ophthalmology Clinic, PC

929 Business Park Dr., TC
947-6246

G.T. Pavilions

1000 Pavilion Cr. , TC
932-3000

Grand Traverse Resort & Spa

231-534-6750, 1-888-437-2772

In-Dul-Gence Salon

Linda Morris 357-3601
407 S. Union St., TC

Kids Creek Children's Clinic

5024 North Royal , TC
935-0555

Legacy Financial Svcs.

Kelly Rowe 933-0631
13919 S.W. Bay Shore Dr., TC

Main Dish

Cherryland Center,
(near Sears), TC 935-4635

Mary Kay Cosmetics

Pat Westbrook 929-1830

North Woods Clinical Massage

Therapy

Susan Robinson 499-9664

Northern Auto Service

501 So. Airport Rd., TC
947-1840

Northwestern Michigan College

1701 E. Front St., TC 995-1000

Oakwood Veterinary Hospital

924 Hastings, TC 941-7241

Oleson's Food Stores

New store: Hammond Rd./3 Mi.
3850 N. Long Lake Rd.
947-6510

Old Towne Optical

Dr. Jeffrey Pulk, 946-0333
515 S. Union, TC

Oryana Nat. Foods Coop Mkt.

260 East Tenth, TC

Pizza Hut

3030 US 31 South, TC
947-2077

Rainbow Book Store

(Christian Resource Center)
1235 S. Airport Rd., TC
946-8800

Reynolds-Jonkhoff

Funeral Home

305 6th St., TC 947-6347

Schelde's Restaurants

Traverse City: Schelde's Grille,
Travino, Freshwater Lodge

SRC Mortgage

Debbie Highway, 995-7435,
Cell 231-357-5577

548 E. Front St., TC

State Farm Insurance

Mark Newhouse
933-5400

Stone Mountain Carpets

Charlie Stiehl
800-786-6333

Traverse City Record Eagle

946-2000

Wells-Fargo Investments

Eric Braund,
946-8708, 800-771-1226

13919 S.W. Bayshore Dr., TC

Wooden Gallery

116 E. Front St., TC 941-0823

V 2 K Window Decor & More

Max Binkley, 937-1700



The Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse
C/O Karen Spencer - Membership
8165 S. Bingham Ridge Dr.
Traverse City, MI 49684
kspencera2@earthlink.net

Quick Tip! If you change your email address please notify us at kspencera2@earthlink.net.
Email is the best way to get information to members between publications of the Newcomer News.