



Newcomers News

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(Antrim - Benzie - Grand Traverse - Kalkaska - Leelanau)

December
2011

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Visit us on the web at
gtnewcomers.org

HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE

Thursday, December 15, 2011
Traverse City Golf & Country Club

Please join us for a delightful evening at the Newcomers Annual Holiday Dinner Dance on Thursday, December 15, 2011. Festivities commence at 6:00 PM at the Traverse City Golf & Country Club located at 1725 South Union Street, Traverse City. This event is exclusive to Newcomer members only; don't miss this opportunity to dress in your finest attire, meet, mingle and celebrate the holiday season.

A social hour begins at 6:00 PM, followed with a plated dinner served at 7:00 PM. Jazz North will provide live music for your listening and dancing pleasure. This is one of the events that your Newcomers Club subsidizes with the funds raised at our annual auction so don't miss out! This year there will be a cash bar.

Your choice of entree:

- Herb Crusted Roasted 10 oz Prime Rib served with Horseradish Crème
- Broiled Atlantic Salmon

All dinners include:

- Classic Caesar Salad with Country Club's homemade Caesar dressing
 - Sugar Snap Peas with a Lemon Zest
 - Oven Roasted Yukon Gold Potatoes
 - Dessert
 - Coffee and tea, fresh baked rolls and whipped butter
- (Special meal provided upon request.)

All reservations must be received before December 10.

Make check payable to Newcomers Club for **\$30 per person** and mail with your entrée selection to:

Michele Richard, Executive Assistant
4915 Black Bear Dr.
Traverse City, MI 49685

SPECIAL NOTE: We encourage everyone to bring non-perishable food items to donate to the Northwest Food Coalition. Cash donations are also welcome. Let's continue to help those less fortunate during this joyous but needy time of year.

ENTREE SELECTION:

Herb Crusted Roasted 10 oz Prime Rib _____

Broiled Atlantic Salmon _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

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PRESIDENTS' NOTE

December 2011

Have you heard the rumor that the Board has voted to stop sending the Newsletter in the mail? Or the one about how the Newsletter will only be available electronically and if you want a printed copy you will have to print it yourself?



Marshall Persky and Dan Klimaszewski
Co-Presidents



Do I have your attention? Yes, there is a special "Electronic Committee" that has recommended to the Board that we change our production of the Newsletters. Their research found most organizations like Newcomers no longer send printed newsletters. They have looked at several local organizations, as well as other Newcomer

Chapters in the US that have changed to an electronic newsletter and found it to be far superior to the product we have today. Advantages include more information using hyperlinks, faster delivery to your inbox, ease in forwarding, interactive ability, color pictures; all this and a substantial financial savings for the club. Studies show that e-newsletters are more likely to be read than traditional paper newsletters, too.

All of this aside, we know that you love your newsletters and change is always hard. No Worries! We are **NOT** going to make quick changes, but rather continue in a thoughtful way with the following:

- Find the best software available to produce an outstanding e-newsletter and learn how to use it.
- Take a look at other e-newsletters for best practices. (You can help by sending any e-newsletters you receive to Robbin Stott, rstott@chartermi.net.)
- Make the e-newsletter available to those who would like it sometime next year.
- Continue to print and mail the newsletter to members who would prefer it that way.
- Make the e-newsletter far superior to the printed newsletter.

Your Board believes it represents all members and would be happy to hear your suggestions and/or concerns. Call or email Dan or me anytime.

Marshall Persky
231-922-8153
marshallpersky@gmail.com

Dan Klimaszewski
734-635-4191
danklim1@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

If you have email or address changes, please contact Barb Palazuk, Membership Chair. Barb can be reached at 231-421-1249 or dpalazuk@gmail.com.

NEWCOMERS ON FACEBOOK

Join Newcomers members on Facebook. You'll find our group at: **Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse.**

We'd love for you to "friend" us!!

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Thursday, December 15—Holiday Dinner Dance

January 24—General Meeting

February 28—General Meeting

NEW MEMBER CORNER

Susan Kenzie

Charlene Allen

Richard and Nancy Priehs

Midland, MI

Website Happenings

What's new on our Newcomers website - www.gtnewcomers.org?

Find the latest and greatest edition of our Members' Directory under the Members' tab.

If you have any images, suggestions or questions, contact our Newcomers webmaster Lynn Huffman at lhuffman@gammet.com.

Helping Hands Request

The Newcomers Club 'Helping Hands' Coordinator attempts to acknowledge happy and sad times in our members' lives.

Please notify Diann Nance at 231-668-7217 or 1477newport@charter.net if you know of any of these circumstances.

Here's a tasty recipe from the Fustini's field trip in November:

Fustini's Blood Orange Brownies

1 box of Brownie Mix

Substitute the 1/3 cup vegetable oil with Fustini's Blood Orange Extra Virgin Olive Oil

Bake as directed on the box.



NEWCOMERS DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Newcomers Directory is online at the Newcomers website, www.gtnewcomers.org. It is constantly being updated due to additions, deletions, changes to addresses, email, etc. Therefore the most up-to-date Directory information can be found in the Members area of our website.

- Go to our website at www.gtnewcomers.org and click on the members tab. That will take you to the member's area.
- Click on the ENTER MEMBERS' AREA button. That will take you to an area that you can choose the Board, Activity and Directory information. Open and view or print the Directory.

The main advantage of viewing online is that it will be the latest information available. If you have any changes required for your address, email, phone etc. in the current directory, please contact Dan Palazuk at NewcomersTC@gmail.com or 231-421-1249. Dan will incorporate any updates to the Directory.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, December 6, 10:30 AM

Tuesday, December 13, 1:00 PM

Our next scheduled Book Club meeting, December 6, falls on the day many of our members will be headed for Chicago with the Travel Group. We have decided to hold the morning session on December 6, but move the afternoon session to the following Tuesday, December 13, to accommodate everyone. Feel free to go to either session that works for your schedule. As always, we meet in Horizon Book Store, lower level.

December's selection is **Room** by Emma Donoghue; led by Carole Wasserman (morning group, 10:30 AM on December 6) and Linda Proffitt (afternoon group, 1:00 PM on **December 13**). The morning group will have lunch at Shine Café in Horizon. The remainder of the year we will consider the following:

January: *The Dry Grass of August*

February: *The Loon Feather*

March: *Unbroken*

April: *In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror and an American Family in Hitler's Berlin*

May: *The Paris Wife*

June: *State of Wonder*

Katie Brown has mentioned to the morning book group that she will need a replacement for February, March and April. She will also be looking for a replacement for next year. Please email Pat Haber (pathaber@gmail.com) if you are interested.

For questions contact Katie Brown (231-922-9389 or jkbrow@att.net) or Terrill Persky (231-922-8153 or terrillpersky@gmail.com), overall leaders of the morning group (Katie) and afternoon group (Terrill).

DINNER OUT

Monday, January 9

There will not be a Dinner Out activity in December due to the Holiday Dinner Dance, but mark your calendars and start making plans for January's exciting dinner at the very popular Red Ginger in Traverse City.

With its casual elegant style and lively metropolitan atmosphere, dining at Red Ginger is an experience. The Asian and Sushi menu offers high quality Japanese, Thai, Vietnamese and Chinese cuisine, with an abundance of fresh seafood. The food is creatively prepared and beautifully presented, and the service is welcoming and attentive.

Our dinner at Red Ginger will take place **MONDAY, JANUARY 9TH** (note the day change, Red Ginger is closed Sundays) and we will begin with cocktails and socializing at 5:00, with dinner planned for 5:30. Seating is limited to 32 people. To avoid getting lost in the holiday rush, please **email your reservation by DECEMBER 16TH** to knaack222@gmail.com. Menu decisions will depend on numbers of reservations, so we need numbers early.

Plan to come and decompress from the holiday craziness with your Newcomers Club friends at Red Ginger. Contact Bob and Brenda Knaack for questions: 231-421-3127 or knaack222@gmail.com.

Red Ginger; 237 East Front Street; Traverse City
231-944-1733; www.eatatginger.com

DINNER FOR EIGHT

Eight people will join together at one person's home each month (rotating hosting) to enjoy dinner together with each person or couple contributing to the meal. Join us for great food and great fellowship. Nancy Johnson has contacted participants with details. If you'd like to join the substitute list, contact Nancy (johns526@msu.edu or 231-668-9633).

EUCHRE

Euchre groups meet once a month in each other's homes. We currently have eight groups. Each group is made up of three to four tables. Group members change tables and partners throughout the evening which makes for a lot of opportunity for lively conversation. Of course, food and drink are involved. The players within any group are of varying levels of experience. Euchre, in Newcomers, is a social, not a competitive event.

IS THIS A RECORD? Group 3 players made 15 loners at their November get together. That's **15 loners in ONE night!!**

We are in need of two individuals to start a ninth Euchre group. A couple or two singles will do it. If interested please contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net.

If you have a basic understanding of the game and want to join in the fun, contact Judy Pelto.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 4)



Letha Cairns recently won at Euchre Group 1 for the first time in five years with a 58! Pictured with her, left to right are some of the "loners" of the evening: Dick Thompson, Brad Spencer and Bud Dockter.

FILM GROUP

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

For December only, the Film Group will meet on Friday, December 2, 2011.

The film group is a casual fun group made up of people who love going to the movies. We attend movies at different theaters throughout the season and go out for discussion, food and libations afterwards. The group meets the second Thursday of every month from September through May. I may occasionally add an extra film date during any given month if a film looks interesting and may not be playing at the time of the regular scheduled meeting.

Notification as to the film, time and place is emailed to film group members a few days before the outing. Anyone interested in joining the group may contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net.

FISHING

Steelhead are being caught all along the western shore of Michigan. Inland fishing is going well for species such as walleye, pike, and panfish. Contact each other for fishing opportunities.

Contact Pete Albers, phalbers99@gmail.com or 922-7289, if you are interested in participating in any of the group activities.

GUN CLUB

December 4, 6:30 PM

The first Gun Club meeting was held November 8, and

twelve people attended. Our speaker was attorney David Bieganowski who spoke on shooter liability, gun safety, home defensive shooting and the requirements to obtain a concealed weapons permit. Three percent of the Grand Traverse County population have a concealed weapons permit and 15% of those are female. There is growing interest among women concerning defensive shooting and the Cedar Rod and Gun Club will hold a CCW class in January just for women.

The next Gun Club meeting will be December 4 at 6:30 PM. Steve Lauer, an NRA instructor, will conduct the meeting which will be on gun safety, loading and cleaning hand guns. There will be a small fee. If you wish to attend, please email Dave Richard at crowbar38@gmail.com or call 231-933-0359.

MEN'S BOOK CLUB

The Men's book club will not meet in December. January's selection will be *Of the Summer Moon: Rise and Fall of the Comanche*, by S.C. Gwynne. The group will meet on January 23, 2012.

Contact George Kobernus, gkobernus@chartermi.net or 231-933-9321 for more information.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesday, December 14, 9:00 AM

This group meets at the Omelette Shoppe next to the Wild Birds Unlimited store in Campus Plaza every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9:00 AM. We meet all year around and always meet regardless of the weather. Bring all the testosterone you can muster.

Contact George Kobernus at gkobernus@chartermi.net or 933-9321.

MIXED PARTY BRIDGE

Ira Wasserman is the new leader of Mixed Bridge group. Contact Ira at ira_wasserman@hotmail.com for more information.

NEWCOMERS NEEDLERS

December 1 and 15, 1:00-3:00 PM

Join us twice a month for a couple of hours of uninterrupted knitting, crocheting, needlepoint or rug hooking. Our low-key group enjoys working on our projects in the company of others. Come with a project, or just to chat. If you need help, someone is probably able to assist you. We meet on the first and third Thursdays, 1:00-3:00 PM, at Aroma's Coffee Shop (<http://www.aromascoffeeshop.com/>) at Kid's Creek shopping center on Division, just south of 14th Street.

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ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 5)

Have questions, want to be on the email list, or just want to let us know you'll be there? Contact Robbin Stott, rstott@chartermi.net or 932-1709 for information.

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, December 14, 1:00 PM

The group will enjoy lunch on December 14, at Trattoria Stella in the Village at Grand Traverse Commons. Trattoria Stella is a neighborhood restaurant and bar with traditional Italian food, wine and service. Menus change and are updated daily.

Contact Sis Leake, sisleake@charter.net or 231-929-7036, by December 12 for reservations.

POKER

Wednesday, November 30, 1:00 PM

The poker group meets the first Tuesday of the month, with winter hours of 1:00 – 4:00 PM and summer hours of 6:30 – 9:30 PM. The group meets on a rotating basis at each member's home. The game is small stakes to keep the game and conversation fun and friendly. The host merely has to provide the home and setup, while members bring snacks and drinks.

The December meeting will actually be held in November, on Wednesday, November 30, from 1:00 to 4:00. Steve Lockwood will be hosting. Please contact Steve if you plan to attend. Steve's e-mail is steve.640@hotmail.com and his phone number is 231-938-2293.

The poker group coordinator is Mike Huffman. His phone number is 517-655-3374 and his email is wdcspike@yahoo.com.

SNOWSHOE/X-COUNTRY SKIING

This group will meet in January, assuming Mother Nature cooperates. Contact Ira Wasserman at ira_wasserman@hotmail.com for more information.

SOLOS

Contact Sis Leake for further information about this group. Sis can be reached at 231-929-7036 or sisleake@charter.net.

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE THEATRE

Wednesday, December 7, 2:30 PM

Thursday, December 15, 2:30 PM

State Theatre Volunteers: Join us as we work in the concession area, take tickets, sweep floors, usher, run errands, and sometimes we even get to watch the movie.

Free popcorn and pop, a voucher for another movie, and tokens for the parking ramp complete the experience. Our afternoon shift is sometimes slow and sometimes busy. Give it a try and perhaps you might like to move to a busier time on your own. You are more than welcome to remain at this less active level too.

We have two shifts per month and you may choose the one you prefer. We work on the first Wednesday and the third Thursday of each month from 2:30 PM until 5:15 PM. Our December dates are Wednesday, December 7 and Thursday, December 15. Join us for dinner afterwards if you have time.

Space is limited, so please sign up via email with Nancy Johnson. Contact Nancy at johns526@msu.edu or 231-668-9633 if you would like to be added to the list of potential volunteers.

WALK IN THE WOODS

Walk in the Woods is finished for the fall. Now it's time to join the snowshoeing group lead by Ira Wasserman. See you in April.

WINE GROUP

The wine tasters have been busy visiting Bowers Harbor in October and L. Mawby Vineyards in November. Fun and fellowship are just a part of the fun we are having!

No wine tasting event is planned for the month of December as our calendars are getting filled with holiday parties and gatherings with friends and families.

We'll do a wine tasting in January 2012 with more details to follow!

As always, your ideas and suggestions are most welcome. Contact Edie Brown, ediebk@gmail.com or 231-883-6337.



THE NEWCOMERS AUCTION

The Newcomers Auction was held on 11-11-11 and what an enjoyable time we had!

Approximately 75 Newcomers enjoyed the fun at the Presbyterian Church of Traverse City. Penelope Olson and Marlowe Bonner teamed as auctioneers to keep the bids and fun flying. Jim Niebauer and Dennis Stockemer spotted bids while Arnie Taddia and Max Proffitt kept track of paddles and winning bids.

Some of the items auctioned included gift certificates for local restaurants, several cruises with dinner or appetizers, dinners in members' homes, a commissioned painting by Stephanie Hanson and a set of moose antlers. The silent auction kept buyers busy as they checked and raised their bids.



Auctioneer Marlowe Bonner "models" moose antlers.

A huge thanks go to local businesses who donated to the event: Bay Leaf, Traverse City Beach Bums, Boone's Long Lake Inn, Clipper Dog Grooming Service, Cog's Creek Gallery, The Crowne Golf Course, Daisy Jane, Downtown Frame Up, Fustini's, Horizon Books, Leelanau Country Club, Mary's Kitchen Port, Maxbauer's, Moomer's, 9 Bean Rows Bakery, Pavlova, Phil's on Front, Red Mesa Grill, Regal Nail Salon, State Theatre, Studio 415, TC Foods (FireFly, Bubba's, Giovanni's), Trillium Photographs, Tuscan Bistro, Village Inn (Sutton's Bay), Visit Up North Vacation Rentals, What to Wear, Formative Fitness and Xylo's Restaurant.

The annual Auction is an important fundraiser for our club. Membership dues cover the basic operating expenses (newsletter, meeting room rental, etc.). Proceeds from the auction allow the club to offset some of the costs for club dinners and the annual picnic. Thanks to the generosity of you, our members, this year's event was a huge success.

Additional thanks goes to Kathy Tuckerman, chair of the auction. She was ably assisted by Auctioneers Marlowe Bonner and Penelope Olson as well as volunteers who solicited or provided donations and/or helped the night of the auction: Ralph Brickman, Edie Brown, Karen & Mike Coquillard, Pat Haber & Dan Klimaszewski, Stefanie Hanson, Lee Hosler, Mike & Lynn Huffman, Nancy & Del Johnson, Howard & Wendy Keys, Bob & Brenda Knaack, Barb Lalonde, Pam Mackey, Jim Neibauer, Penelope Olson, Barb & Dan Palazuk, Terrill Persky, Bob & Ginny Postma, Linda & Max Proffitt, Dave & Michele Richard, Larry Sanko, Nora Socks, Dennis & Sandy Stockemer, Robbin Stott, John & Nan Strickler, Arnie & Linda Taddia, and Ira & Carole Wasserman. We apologize if we missed your name but this shows that it takes many in the organization to make this event a success. Thanks also to members who donated delicious treats and beverages for the refreshment table.



Patronize our sponsors

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231-995-9700

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Joseph M. Stayman, D.D.S.
10850 E. Traverse Hwy, TC
946-9644

Banfield Pet Hospital
2544 Crossing Circle (next to
PetSmart), TC 922-9844

Bob's Furnace Services
2282 Cass Rd., TC 941-4064

**Brian N Feeney, DDS PC
Family Dentistry**

Copper Ridge, Bldg. A, TC
946-2497

Cartridge World
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231-590-0272

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941-4578

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231-941-1215

The Dance Center
225 E. 14th St., TC
947-6820

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Business and Financial Advisors**
415 Munson Ave
Traverse City, MI 49686
231-946-1722
www.dgncpa.com

Dennos Museum Center
1701 E. Front St., TC
995-1055

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1107 East 8th St., TC
946-8930

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929 Business Park Dr., TC
947-6246

Grand Traverse History Center
322 Sixth St., TC
995-0313

Grand Traverse Resort & Spa
231-534-6750, 1-888-437-2772

Grand Traverse Children's Clinic
3537 W. Front St., Ste. G
Traverse City
935-8822

Interlochen Center for the Arts
4000 S. M-137 Hwy.
Interlochen, MI
231-276-7200

Kids Creek Children's Clinic
5024 North Royal, TC
935-0555

Mary Kay Cosmetics
Pat Westbrook 929-1830
333 W. Grandview Pkwy, TC

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935-6482

Music House Museum
U.S. 31 North, Acme
938-9300

**Northwest Michigan College
Extended Educational Services &
Life Academy** (Classes for adults
over 50)
231-995-1700

Oleson's Food Stores
Hammond Rd. & 3 Mile and
3850 N. Long Lake Rd. TC
947-1900/947-6510

Old Town Playhouse
148 E. Eighth St., TC
947-2210, ext. 3

Oryana Nat. Foods Coop Mkt.
260 East Tenth, TC

Pizza Hut
3030 US 31 South, TC
947-2077

Precision Plumbing & Heating
2829 Cass Rd., T.C.
231-947-0100 or
231-275-5273

Recycle Smart
www.recyclesmart.info
Recycle Hotline 941-5555

Rehmann Financial
Erickson Braund
107 S. Cass St., Suite A, TC
231-946-3230

**Reynolds-Jonkhoff
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305 6th St., TC
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Style North—Brooke Murphy
3301 S. Airport Rd
(Across from G.T. Mall)
231-590-8667

**The Mom's Club of Grand
Traverse Area**
www.TheMomsClub.net
**Traverse City Record Eagle
Newspaper**
946-2000



The Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse
C/O Barb Palazuk - Membership
10719 Shrewbury
Traverse City, MI 49684

«Fname1» «Lname1»
«Fname2» «Lname2»
«Street»
«City», «State» «Zip»