



Newcomers News

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

November
2008

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Wednesday, November 12

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November 10

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WALK IN THE WOODS

November 8

Please visit us on
the web at
gtnewcomers.org

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Please join us for the November Program:

The Newcomer Auction

Wednesday, November 12
7:00 PM

Traverse Area District Library
610 Woodmere Avenue
Traverse City



**Bring your "quality" donated
items between 6:15 PM and 6:45 PM.
Bidding starts at 7:00 PM.**

Get a jumpstart on holiday shopping, or maybe find a unique treasure for yourself. The Newcomer Auction is an enjoyable activity for all. Your donated items may include homemade goodies and crafts, collectibles, tickets to local events, wine and items for the home. Favorite donations in the past have included cooking lessons, boat rides and dinners served in member's homes. You do not need to contribute in order to participate. We need lots of buyers, too. We are expecting unique items, a great time and much fun!

The evening's event includes both a silent auction and a regular auction. The regular auction is naturally a little more upbeat than the silent auction, but the gentle presentation of the items for sale is always done in good taste. Conducting the event again this year is our own notorious and high-priced auctioneer, Gentleman Lee (Tonsils) Hosler. Amazingly, he is not charging us for his services!

This is a major fun raising event for the club and we need your help. We need both items and bidders. Bring your donated items and description of services with you that evening. Enclosed in this newsletter is a page of "Bid Sheets" that you may use to describe your donated items and set a minimum bid. Additional sheets will be available at the auction if you bring more than four items.

Please bring your quality items between 6:15 PM and 6:45 PM. Also, if you can get local businesses to contribute an item or service, we will recognize them in our December newsletter. Come join the fun. We look forward to seeing you there.

Questions? Contact Bud Dockter at 932-2394

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November 2008



Lori Brickman &
Bob Pelto

Here we are in November and Newcomer activities are in full swing. We have been delighted to see so many new faces at these events. Lori had a chance to meet Pat Jonen at the last Garden Club meeting of the season. Judy Pelto said Larry and Faith Sanko and Jim Striewski joined the regulars for film Night. Marlowe Bonner's walking group had a record 37 trekkers, including the Samuels and Kathy Flegel. Karen Coquillard told us that they have a lot of new folks, including Dick and Jane Grewe, who signed up for Euchre. Other activity leaders are also reporting an upswing in attendance.

If you are a new member and your name wasn't mentioned this month, we'll be on the lookout for you with an eye toward future President's notes in upcoming newsletters. We want all of you to know how much we enjoy getting to know the newest of the new.

The Directory is online now which makes it much easier to contact new friends and invite them to the Auction this month or the Holiday Dinner/Dance in December or any other great activity. It is an excellent tool for staying in touch which brings us to a point about Club policy.

The Directory and all member lists of Newcomer participants are for the social use of Club members. As stated in our By-Laws, they may not be used to solicit members for business purposes by mail, email, phone or in person. It is important that our membership feel confident that the information they share will be used appropriately for Club business only. If you have been contacted or feel that your Club information has been used without consent, contact Bob or Lori and we will follow up. We're a fun-loving group of people who just want to enjoy our great GT Newcomers Club.

Speaking of enjoyment, I know that each of you has already selected or crafted your contribution to the Auction. As it is the Club's only fundraiser we look forward to lots of participation. With Lee Hosler as our master auctioneer, the event is sure to be hilarious and profitable. We had so much fun last year that everyone just kept on bidding (whoa, do you think Lee did that on purpose?).

Thanksgiving is also fast approaching. It is usually a time of travel to be with or receive friends and family. But sometimes when we're new in town, we find ourselves alone on a holiday. Maybe those of us who plan to be at home in TC for Thanksgiving can set an extra place or two at the table and invite a few good souls to join us. That would result in Thanks and Giving. What a concept! Have a great holiday!

Bob and Lori

Please send news, articles, photos, letters, or ads to the newsletter editor:

mikiconnel@aol.com or call her at 929-1049

The deadline for the December 2008 newsletter is November 15.

NEW MEMBER CORNER

Attention Newcomer Club Downhill

Skiers: Northern Michigan Adaptive Sports (NMAS), affiliated with Munson Hospital, is looking for intermediate or advanced-level skiers to assist with its alpine ski program. Training will be provided. There will be approximately three ski weekends (one or both days) for the upcoming season. Volunteers ski free and do not have to commit to every session or day. On-hill duties include running interference, and/or bucketing, loading, or tethering participants. The purpose of NMAS is to introduce people with disabilities to alpine skiing using adaptive equipment and/or special instruction. If interested, contact Jody Bennett, 231-932-9249 or Ann Reichert, 231-935-8684.

Jim Horrocks and Beryl Striewski
Houston, TX

Lawrence & Faith Sanko
Allen Park, MI

Dennis & Sandy Stockemer
Rochester, MI

Jim & Marie Bode
Fort Wayne, IN

Hilda York

Sue Sanford
Lansing, MI

Pat & Linda Monaham
Orland Park, IL

Shirley Klunzinger
East Lansing, MI

Terry & Sharon Samuel
Franklin, TN

Reserve now for next month's program:

Holiday Dinner/Dance

Friday, December 5

Waterfront Conference Center

Come join us for a great evening out at the Newcomers Annual Holiday Dinner/Dance on **Friday, December 5**. Enjoy the company of new and old friends at the Waterfront Conference Center, 2061 U.S. 31 North, Traverse City. Last year's event was enjoyed by all who attended and we expect the same this year.

Social hour will start at 6:30 PM, followed by fine dining and dancing. Paul Widlund will provide DJ service for the entire evening. Paul did an outstanding job of entertaining us last year and is always open to your personal requests. This evening is truly one of those special Newcomer events of the year.

Cash Bar @ 6:30 PM ▲▲▲▲▲ Sit-Down Dinner @ 7:30 PM

When making reservations, please select from one of the following two dinner choices:

- Fresh Whitefish baked with dill & white wine sauce, topped with Dried Cherry Tarragon Butter
- Beef Tenderloin Tips simmered with garlic, onions and mushrooms and served with Hunters Sauce

If needed, special dinner plates may be requested.

All reservations should be received no later than Monday, December 1. Please send your reservations in early! Make your check payable to Newcomers Club for \$29 per person and mail to:

Pam Evans, Executive Assistant
3104 Ogidaki Trail
Traverse City, MI 49686

Special Note: We encourage everyone to bring non-perishable food items to donate to the Northwest Food Coalition. Checks are accepted in lieu of food donations. Let's continue to help those less fortunate during this joyous but needy time of year.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

BIKING GROUP (new)

Saturday, November 1, 11:00 AM

The group will leave from the West Bay Beach parking lot. We will ride the TART/Leelanau Trail. Anyone interested should contact Don Eastway, cadillac2154@yahoo.com or 231-884-1106.

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, November 4, 10:00 AM

The Book Club meets in the lower level of Horizon Books on Front Street in Traverse City. This month's selection is *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith. Bernadette Albers will lead this discussion.

If you have questions or need a book list, please contact Letha Cairns at 271-6831 or gcairns@chartermi.net.

BRIDGE

TEAM BRIDGE:

First Friday of each month (except June-Aug.), 7:00 PM at Cedar Creek Commons. Bring a snack to share. New members are always welcome (bring a partner). Call Georgia Stoeber, 938-5846.

WOMEN'S BRIDGE:

2nd Tuesday of each month, 11:30 AM, at Scott's Harbor Grille. Hostess duties will be rotated among the group.
4th Thursday of each month, 11:30 AM., at G's, 1500 U.S. 31 North, Traverse City.

Call Judy Owen, 922-9619.

MIXED PARTY BRIDGE

3rd Friday of the month, 7:00 PM. All skill levels welcome. Different hosts each month.
Contact Rick and Kathy Bodette, 271-7524 or richardbodette@cs.com.

DINNER OUT

Sunday, November 30, 5:00 PM

Join us at Don's Drive-In, 2030 U.S. 31 North, Traverse City.

Contact Constance Kilbride via email (preferred): constancek@firstassetfinancial.com, or at 941-3871 **by November 23** if you are planning to participate.

EUCHRE

We have several Euchre groups going at this time. Four are filled to capacity and a fifth group is being organized. Each group has its own format, but most take turns meeting at each others' homes once a month once a month to play and socialize. Everyone brings a snack and their own

libation. Those who participate have nothing but great things to say about their involvement.

If you know how to play Euchre and are interested in committing to a group or possibly subbing, contact Karen Coquillard at karenmary32@hotmail.com or 932-9883.

Solo Euchre

We have four people who have signed up to join a Euchre group who do not have partners that play. If you are someone who would like to meet once a month to play Euchre, but do not have a partner (or your partner is not a Euchre player), please call Karen at 932-9883. **I need a leader to volunteer in order for this group to begin.**

FILM GROUP

Thursday, November 13

This is a casual, fun group made up of people who love going to the movies. We will continue to attend movies at different theaters throughout the season and go out for discussion, food and libations afterwards.

Our next outing will be on Thursday, November 13. Watch your email or check the website for specifics. I may occasionally add an extra film date during any given month if a film looks interesting and may not still be playing at the time of the regular scheduled gathering.

Anyone interested in joining should contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net or call 668-6490.

FISHING

The Fishing Group includes Newcomers who are interested in fishing activities of any kind. The group is new and is evolving according to the interests of its participants. Currently we sponsor spring lake trout and late summer salmon charter fishing trips on the Grand Traverse Bays. Group members are encouraged to contact each other to organize outings and to share information.

The group sponsored a salmon fishing trip on West Bay on September 6. Nine persons went out on two charter boats and caught four nice chinook salmon. The weather was cooperative and everyone had an enjoyable outing. The salmon run will continue into mid-October followed by increasing numbers of steelhead during November and December.

Contact Pete Albers, phalbers99@gmail.com, 922-7289 for more information.

GARDENING

The group met for a Garden Party hosted by Miki Connell

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ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 4)

on October 8. We enjoyed the time sharing ideas and plants, touring Miki's gardens, and the camaraderie. The Garden Group will not meet again until spring.

If you are interested in being part of this group, contact Lynn Huffman at lhuffman@gammet.com or 517-449-4849.

GOLF

Following the tremendous Ryder Cup victory for the USA with record viewership, local TV station 9&10 News and Fox 33 wanted to boost their viewership. Solution? Film the top golf group in the five county area, The Grand Traverse Newcomers Club, during their sanctioned event at **High-Point** Golf Course September 8th. With limited editing, TV viewers saw golf at its best from Ralph Brickman (how about that par putt by Ralph that did a 360 and lipped out), Bob Pelto, John Patten and Dave Charlton. Viewership soared by 37.5% as a result of showing this sporting event. Highlights from Highpoint: Fewest Putts: Terry Samuel; Longest Drive: Marshall Persky; Closest to Pin: Dave Charlton.

At **Crystal Lake**, Jim Neibauer was closest to the pin on # 13; Mike Huffman and Dave Charlton tied for longest drive. Fred Woodruff and Dave Charlton tied for low gross and fewest putts.

On October 13th at the **Leelanau Club**, 20 golfers enjoyed autumn's fall display of beautiful colors plus turned in some impressive results. From the women, Nancy Dockter won closest to the pin on #9 and had the longest drive on #8. She also had the most putts. Jody Charlton was closest to the pin on #11 and made her putt for the only birdie in our group. Patti Custance and Nancy Dockter tied for low gross. High gross, Pam Evans. From the men, Marshall Persky was closest to the pin on #9. Longest drives, Dave Charlton on #8 and Mike Huffman on #13. Fred Woodruff had low gross. Bud Dockter had fewest putts. A big thanks to Mike Coquillard for helping to make our outing a smooth running success. The group ended the golf season with the largest turnout all year.

" All golfers, men and women, professional and amateur, are united by one thing: their desire to improve." Judy Rankin

MEN'S BOOK CLUB

Monday, November 24, 10:00 AM

Everyone is welcome. We meet on the 4th Monday of the month in the lower level of Horizon Books on Front Street in Traverse City at 10:00 AM.

November 24: *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens



Newcomer golfers close out their season at the Leelanau Club

December 22: *Guns, Germs and Steel: Fates of Human Societies* by Jared Diamond

Contact Jim Neibauer at jeneibauer2@charter.net or 267-9553

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesday, November 12, 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 933-9321 or gkobernus@chartermi.net.

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, November 12, 1:00 PM

The OTL Bunch meets the second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 PM at a selected restaurant in Traverse City and the surrounding area.

Please join us for lunch at the Mongolian Barbeque, 3480 West South Airport Road, Traverse City.

Contact **Gloria Brown** at 947-5318 or gloriowski@charter.net for reservations and directions **by Monday, November 10.**

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An Election Worker's View

By Tom Custance

There is more to being an election worker than picking a good novel to read during the slow times (no newspapers, though, as they may contain election advertising) or having enough yarn to complete a new afghan. There is more to the story.

Our day starts well before sunrise as we get the voting areas organized, the tally machines ready and then get sworn in as election officials. We each are trained to handle the multiple responsibilities so we can switch jobs as needed during the day. At the prescribed time, not a minute before or a minute after, the doors are opened.

This is where your part comes in. Are you in the right place? There is a map in each voting area which shows your street and its precinct or just ask one of the workers. It is frustrating to stand in line, only to be told you have to go somewhere else.

Have your picture identification ready. It slows down the process if you have to empty out your pockets or purse searching for your driver's license or military card.

It helps to have your mind made up before you get set to vote. It is not unheard of to see someone flip a coin while marking their ballot. Embarrassing would be a good description of having the election worker shout out "SPOILED BALLOT" across the room as the tally machine spits out your choice because you have split your vote during a primary or marked too many choices in a particular race.

When the polls close (at the exact time, of course) we get to double-check that the number of ballots handed out is exactly the same as the count on the tally machine. If they don't agree, then we count again...and again...and again until it matches. Then write-in candidates are checked to make sure they are properly registered. It is true that voters have the right to add Mickey Mouse or Goofy to the ballot but they haven't won an election yet (although some may argue about Goofy). Everything is then packaged, secured, signed for and sent off for verification. After a 15 hour day, we get to go home.

Exercise your right to vote. It is one of our sacred freedoms. While you are there, be sure to smile at the precinct workers. It may help shorten their day.

Editor's note: Tom Custance is the past Co-President of the Newcomers Club.



Newcomer hikers enjoying the glorious view from the top of the Empire Bluff Trail this summer.

Book Exchange

What are you doing with those beach books you finished this summer? Would you like to exchange them for a little more light reading or maybe a heavier tome for the winter? Well, there may be an answer to your wish and a good fireside story just waiting to be picked up.

Some Newcomers are interested in an easy "no difficult rules" book exchange. We would bring 1 to 4 books (usually paperbacks but hardbacks are welcome) to a program meeting. They would be available during the social time and program for exchange. Select no more than the number you brought from the available books. At the end of the evening take home these new finds and your unclaimed books.

You may use your newly acquired books later as an exchange or bring in different titles. Participate as often as you like. Feel free to use the newsletter classifieds to request specific books, titles or genres. The book exchange is free, free, free so get involved!!

We will do a test run of this idea at the **November 12** meeting at the Traverse City Public Library.

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POKER

Monday, November 3, 1:30 PM

The poker group meets the 1st Tuesday of the month, with winter hours of 1:30 PM—4:30 PM and summer hours of 6:30 PM—9:30 PM. The group meets on a rotating basis at each member's home. The game is small stakes (5¢, 10¢, 25¢) to keep the game and conversation fun and friendly. The host merely has to provide home and setup, while members bring snacks and drinks.

The November meeting will be held on Monday, November 3, from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM. The site is yet to be determined. Please call or e-mail the group coordinator for details.

The poker group coordinator is Mike Huffman. Phone is 517-655-3374. E-mail is wdcspike@yahoo.com.

QUILTING/SEWING

Tuesday, November 11, 11:30 AM

The Quilting/Sewing group will be going to the Dennon Museum to view their quilt exhibition. Prior attending the exhibit, we will be meeting for lunch at 11:30 AM at Schelde's Grille, 714 Munson Avenue, Traverse City.

If you are planning to attend, please contact Pauline Watt at jwatt1107@charter.net or 231-929-1107.

All are welcome to join our group for this outing.

SNOWSHOE/CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Events will begin in January assuming adequate snowfall. The calendar will be printed in the next newsletter, on the website and sent out by email to all those who have signed up.

If you wish to be added to the list, have ideas for good places to go and or have questions, contact Joe Harris at grizharris@charter.net

Events begin at 11:00 AM on scheduled Saturdays, with lunch at a local establishment after we've worked up a good appetite.

SOLOS

Sunday, November 2, 1:00 PM

We will have a pot luck and story telling at the home of Sis Leake. Be thinking of a good one to share!

Thursday, November 13, 2:00 PM

Nancy Bordine will give a presentation entitled "Shoes Glorious Shoes" at the Grand Traverse Heritage Center, 322 Sixth Street. She will bring a sample from her collection of over 400 historical pairs.

Saturday, November 15, 7:30 PM

Tonight we will enjoy a free student concert in Corson Audi-

torium on the Interlochen campus.

Please call Gini LeClaire (941-8440) or Judy Owen (922-9619) for further information regarding these activities.

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE THEATER

Thursday, November 20, 2:30 PM

Join us as we work in the concession area, sweep floors, sell tickets, usher, run errands, and sometimes even get to see the movie. The group will work on the Third Thursday of the month from 2:30 PM—5:15 PM.

Contact Jody Bennett if you would like to be added to the list of potential volunteers. bennettjj@charter.net, 932-9249.

WALK IN THE WOODS

Saturday, November 8, 11:00 AM

Grand Traverse Natural Education Preserve Lone Pine to Keystone Rapids

This hike offers a chance to see the Boardman River valley up close with a view of the now exposed Sabin Pond, a result of the ongoing power dam issue, as well as the free flowing portion of the river. There are scenic overlooks, bridges and the Keystone Rapids to view. Along the way we'll walk through the old Keystone dam. The footing is solid so if we have a little snow we can still do the walk.

We'll start at the Lone Pine trail head which is located on Keystone Road south of Brimley Road. The parking area is clearly marked and is on your right as you head south on Keystone.

Please email or phone me if you plan on attending. Marlowe Bonner: mbmarbon@aol.com or call 231-932-0943 (home) or 313-600-6837 (cell).

CLASSIFIEDS:

My retirement business/hobby is **TRILLIUM PHOTOGRAPHY**. Since my wife and I have traveled far and wide I have pictures from around the world. I also specialize in flowers. My photographs come in all sizes, even large 42x72" murals (some of these hang in offices in Oakland County).

I will have an **OPEN HOUSE** for members of the Newcomers Club and their friends and neighbors on **Saturday and Sunday, November 15th and 16th**. Your visit will be rewarded with a free "Traverse City Cherry Capital" poster! Albert Sickinger, 126 Wildwood Meadows Drive (east of Center Road and 2.1 miles from the intersection of Front and Garfield), 421-2168.

FOR SALE: Nordic Track Pro Aerobic Exerciser
Electronic Speedometer measures speed, elapsed time, and distance. \$250. Call Arnie Taddia at 231-929-0841 or email at ataddia0805@aol.com

Patronize our sponsors

Associates in Family Dentistry

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

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

Bellissimo Travel Services

Priscilla, 946-4313, TC
13685 SW Bayshore, Ste. 114

Benjamin Franklin —The

Punctual Plumber

929-9999

Bob's Furnace Services

2282 Cass Rd., TC 941-4064

Brian N Feeny, DDS PC

Family Dentistry

Copper Ridge, Bldg. A, TC
946-2497

The Copy Shop - Printers

713 E. 8th St., TC 947-2080

The Dance Center

225 E. 14th St., TC 947-6820

Dennis, Gartland & Niergerth

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

Eastland Apothecary Shoppe

1217 E. Front St., TC
947-9825

Ecowater Systems of TC

1-800-599-0311 or
ecowater.com

EXCEL Rehabilitation Services

3 locations: 2 in Traverse City,
1 in Suttons Bay
929-0303

Gaudette & Co CPAs

1107 East 8th St. , TC
946-8930

Goodyear Auto Service Center

436 W. Front St., TC
922-2600

G.T. Ophthalmology Clinic, PC

929 Business Park Dr., TC
947-6246

Grand Traverse Bay YMCA

3000 Racquet Ball Dr., TC
933-9622

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

Health is Wealth-Chiropractic

Dr. Sherry Weir
Dr. Kim Anderson
3409 Veterans Dr. TC
946-5816

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

Legacy Financial Svcs.

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

Mary Kay Cosmetics

Pat Westbrook 929-1830

Merrill Lynch

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

Munson Healthcare Regional

Foundation

935-6482

Music House Museum

U.S. 31 North, Acme
938-9300

Oakwood Veterinary Hospital

924 Hastings, TC 941-7241

Oleson's Food Stores

New store: Hammond Rd./3 Mi.
3850 N. Long Lake Rd. TC
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

Recycle Smart

www.recyclesmart.info
Recycle Hotline 941-5555

Reynolds-Jonkhoff

Funeral Home

305 6th St., TC 947-6347

Sheren Plumbing and Heating

Energy Services, Design, Build
943-7916

State Farm Insurance

Mark Newhouse
933-5400

Stone Mountain Carpets

Charlie Stiehl
800-786-6333

Traverse City Record Eagle

Newspaper

946-2000

Traverse Magazine

148 E. Front St., TC, 941-8174



The Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse
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Quick Tip! If you change your email address please notify us at kspencertc@charter.net.
Email is the best way to get information to members between publications of the Newcomer News.