



Newcomers News

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August/September 2014

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September 3, September 18

Visit us on the web at
gtnewcomers.org

Join us for the September Program! 2014-2015 FALL KICKOFF DINNER

Tuesday, September 23, 6:30 p.m. cash bar, 7 p.m. sit-down dinner
Hagerty Center of Northwestern Michigan College
715 E. Front Street, Traverse City

It's that time of year again! Mark your calendars and make your reservations now for the Newcomers Fall Kickoff Dinner. This event is the first of the 2014-2015 season. It is a great opportunity to meet new friends, renew old acquaintances, learn more about Newcomers Club, and sign up for the many group activities available to you. We are sure you will enjoy the evening. If you have friends who are considering joining the club, this would be a great event for them to attend.

The Hagerty Center is located on beautiful West Bay between the Holiday Inn and the Senior Center.

Please cut out the form below and choose your dinner entrees. Your meal will include "Hagerty Autumn Salad", fresh rolls, sides of roasted garlic and poblano (no heat) mashed potatoes and roasted root vegetables as well as coffee, tea and lemonade. The finale will be Fresh Berry Napoleon (pastry cream and berries between crispy puff pastry, dusted with powdered sugar). If needed, special dinner plates may be requested.

All reservations must be received no later than **Friday, September 5**. Please send your reservations in early! Make your check payable to Newcomers Club for **\$35.00 per person** and mail to:

Carol Cavanaugh, Event Planner (Kickoff)
115 N. Madison
Traverse City, MI 49684
231-943-1614
carolcavanaugh96@gmail.com

_____ Maple Glazed Pork Tenderloin - Char-grilled and finished with rosemary, pink peppercorns and maple syrup from Northern Michigan!

_____ Pumpkin Seed Crusted Salmon - Grilled Atlantic Salmon with a Michigan maple syrup glaze and finished with a whole grain mustard cream.

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

SEPTEMBER 2014

Co-Presidents

Linda Proffitt 231-421-5389
lindaproffitt@gmail.com

Dave Richard 231-933-0359
crowbar38@gmail.com

Co-Vice Presidents

Brenda Knaack 231-421-3127
knaack222@gmail.com

Mike Semrau 231-421-8171
izzvandmike@yahoo.com

Secretary

Barbara Wentzloff 231-929-1422
barb@wentzloff.com

Treasurer

Dennis Stockemer 231-932-2276
dkstockemer@gmail.com

Activity Groups

Judy Pelton 231-668-6490
jpelto1@charter.net

Calling Committee

Doug Morrison 231-360-7406
morrdj@yahoo.com

Caring Connections

Lorna Anderson 231-935-1875
lea4475@gmail.com

Event Planner

Carol Cavanaugh 231-943-1614
carolcavanaugh96@gmail.com

Membership/Directory

Bob Knaack 231-421-3127
robertknaack47@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Doug Weaver 231-421-9513
dwindsail@aol.com

Public Relations

Debbie May 740-701-0724
dmay317@gmail.com

Webmaster

Rose Carman 231-421-1894
brcarman@live.com

Past Co-President

Kathy Tuckerman 231-944-0714
kmt08@att.net

The winter was long, spring was short and our air conditioning seldom ran this summer. We did have great weather for our annual picnic at Gilbert Lodge in June with 137 members attending. The food was outstanding, and many said it was the best picnic we've ever had. Judy Owen was the big raffle winner and promises to spend her winnings in downtown Traverse City.



Linda Proffitt and Dave Richard
2014-2015

Our annual Kickoff Dinner is Tuesday, September 23, at the beautiful Hagerty Center – an event you do not want to miss. Please fill out the enclosed form and mail it in with your payment for dinner. All of our activity leaders will be there to provide you with sign-up sheets, information and answers to your questions. We also will give you information on our future monthly meetings.

Our club has 446 members and continues to grow. We are very fortunate that our members are willing to serve on the Board of Directors and lead activities, and we usually have more volunteers than available positions. (Please note on page 3, though, our current need for additional activity leaders.) I want to thank the previous board for the time and effort it spent managing our club, as well as the new Board for its willingness to work to move the club forward on your behalf.

At this time our club is financially sound, and you will be happy to know we have plans to upgrade our web site and on-line newsletter so both are more attractive, user friendly and secure. That will happen in 2015.

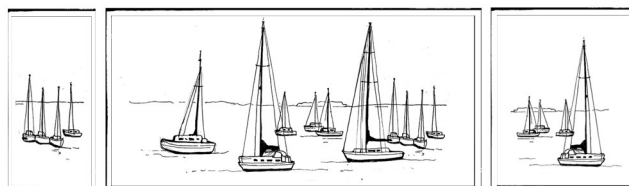
As a prudent board, we are aware of our income and expenses, and we see no need to increase dues in this fiscal year. We also will continue to subsidize both the Kickoff Dinner and Holiday Party. Mark your calendars now for the Holiday Party, which will be held on Wednesday, December 10, at the Traverse City Golf & Country Club.

Membership dues are now due and become delinquent September 30. (See more on page 3 ... renew by September 1 to be eligible for a drawing of a free membership!) So please renew your membership by filling out the enclosed form and returning it with your payment.

Linda and I are proud to serve as your co-presidents this year, and if you have any suggestions for programs, events or activities, don't hesitate to contact us. Remember, this is your club.

Linda Proffitt
lindaproffitt@gmail.com

Dave Richard
crowbar38@gmail.com





Caring Connection Expanding Role in 2014-2015

Friends always help friends in need. With that in mind, the role of the Caring Connections program in the Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse will expand in 2014-2015.

"We want to do a little more than send a greeting card to our Newcomer friends who are experiencing difficulties in their lives," said **Lorna Anderson**, board chairwoman for Caring Connections. "So for the next year, we will have a pilot program that uses volunteer club members to offer our friends more services and support."

Caring Connections will become a network of volunteer members of the Newcomers Club dedicated to providing short-term assistance and referrals to local resources for Newcomers who, for whatever reason, find themselves experiencing difficulties in their lives that keep them from temporarily performing common day-to-day tasks.

Assistance can take many forms including, but not limited to, delivering meals, offering transportation, maintaining lawns and caring for pets. Newcomers with long-term needs will be given information on local resources with the goal of linking them to more permanent solutions.

Any Newcomer may ask directly for assistance. Lorna said club members also may request help for a fellow Newcomer, but only with the permission of the individual who will receive the assistance.

The expanded program will begin in September. To use the program, to sign up now to become a volunteer or to obtain more information on the program, contact Lorna at **231-935-1875**. More information and sign-up opportunities also will be available at the Newcomers' Annual Kickoff Dinner on September 23 at the Hagerty Conference Center in Traverse City.

Activity Leaders Needed for Five Groups

Some key activity groups are in need of new leaders! The groups include: *Euchre*, *Gardening* (need co-leader to work with Cindy Miner in 2015), *Paddling*, *Theatre* (need a co-leader to work with Sandy Stockemer in 2015), *Wine Tasting*.

Leading a group is a great way to get involved with the club and meet lots of new folks. Unfortunately, if leaders cannot be found to head up these activities, then the activities will be discontinued. If you have an interest in leading one of these groups, or would like to discuss the possibility, please contact **Judy Pelto** at jpelto1@charter.net



Your 2014-2015 Dues Renewal is Due!

Your Newcomers Club membership renewal is now due. **RENEW EARLY!!** All renewals received by September 1 will be entered in a drawing to receive a **free membership** for the coming year. Use the enclosed form for renewal and mail to the address on the form. **Renewals will not be collected at the Annual Kickoff Dinner.**

Call for Newcomers Club Artists!

Artists are needed to create posters for the Kickoff Dinner September 23. If interested in contributing your talents for this event please contact **Judy Pelto** at jpelto1@charter.net.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

BIKING

Saturday September 6, 10 a.m.

The September bike ride will start outside Charlevoix near the church on U.S. 31. We will go toward Lake Michigan and park and then bike about 10 miles toward Petoskey. It is a relatively flat ride. We will then bike back to the parking lot and have lunch in Charlevoix. Since it is a relatively long ride from Traverse City to Charlevoix (about 50 miles), we will car pool, meeting at 10 a.m. in the AAA parking lot at the corner of Munson Avenue and Three Mile Road.

If you are interested, contact Ira Wasserman at carole_wasserman@hotmail.com or 231-922-1581.

BOOK CLUB – MEN’S

Monday, August 25, 10 a.m.

The August selection is *Seabiscuit* by Laura Hillenbrand. *Seabiscuit* is the story of a famous racehorse of the 1930s, his trainer and his jockey. It is a fascinating and very well-written account that also was made into a movie.

Monday, September 22, 10 a.m.

The Race Underground by Doug Most. This is an intriguing chronicle of the building of the first subways and other transportation in Boston and New York by an editor of the Boston Globe.

Monday, October 27, 10 a.m.

Legacy of Ashes by Tim Weiner. A National Book Award winner, this is the history of the CIA and its predecessors, is researched and told in the same style as our previous selection on the FBI, *Enemies*.

We meet in the lower level of Horizon Books. For more information, contact Dave Amos, 231-271-0665 or mideamos@hotmail.com.

BOOK GROUP – WOMEN’S—AM

Tuesday, September 2, 10:30 a.m.

The Tuesday AM Book Club will begin its 2014-15 season with a discussion of *Bootstrapper* by Mardi Jo Link. We also will discuss and choose books for the coming year. We will then have lunch at Poppycock’s.

The club meets in the lower level of Horizon Books. For questions, contact Carole Wasserman at carole_wasserman@hotmail.com or 231-922-1581.

BOOK CLUB – WOMEN’S – PM

Tuesday, September 2, 1 p.m.

The afternoon group will discuss *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* by Katherine Boo at its first meeting of the new

season, on Tuesday, September 2.

Other upcoming books (not necessarily in this order) include:

The Goldfinch
Annie’s Ghost
The Husbands Secret
Frog Music
The Farm
The Boys in the Boat
Snow Flower and the Secret Fan
The Invention of Wings

The afternoon group meets on the first Tuesday of the month in the lower level of Horizon Books. For questions, contact Mary Wayne at mwayne44@hotmail.com.

BRIDGE

Wednesday, August 29, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 24, 6:30 p.m.

The group meets the fourth Wednesday of each month. For the month of August, the group will meet on August 28 to accommodate summer schedules.

The August play takes place at the home of Jim and Donna Moore; September play will take place at the home of Mike and Izzy Semrau. Each member will receive directions and other information from the hosts. Evenings start at 6:30 p.m. for social time and play begins at 7 p.m.

Newcomers social bridge is just that - social and not competitive. We enjoy playing but also enjoy getting to know each other. Haven’t played in a while - need a brush up? Join us and watch over our shoulders to get refreshed.

Anyone interested in playing or for more information, contact Mike Semrau at 231-421-8171 or izzyandmike@yahoo.com.

COCKTAILS & CONVERSATION

Cocktails & Conversation continues throughout the summer months, and group already has volunteer hosts for September and October.

Please stop by the C&C activity table at the Kickoff Dinner for more information and to sign up to receive email notices. If you are already on the list there is no need to sign up. If you no longer wish to receive emails please let me know.

If you have enjoyed this activity please consider volunteering to host an event in your home - this is the only

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ACTIVITY GROUPS

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way this fun favorite activity will continue! Please contact Michele Richard at richard.michele@rocketmail.com or 231-357-3039.

DINNER FOR EIGHT

Join us for the season of Dinner for Eight! Six people join two hosts at their home and each "pair" of people will provide part of the meal and there will be four meals scheduled from October through May. The hosts provide the entrée and a couple of sides, plus beverages with up to two glasses of wine per person. The guests bring appetizers or salad and bread or dessert.

Sign up at the Kickoff Dinner in September. If you plan to be gone for more than a month or six weeks at a time during the winter, please sign up as a substitute rather than a regular group member. Join us for the fun and fantastic eats!

DINNER OUT

Calling all food aficionados! Do you enjoy good food and good company? The Dining Out Crowd would love to have you join them once a month (October through April), usually on Sunday evenings at local restaurants. The area is fortunate to have many exceptional restaurants, and the group looks forward to old and new friends joining it for Dining Out!

Even if you were a member of the group in the past, sign up at the Kickoff Dinner or contact Linda and Tom Keck at lkeck1527@yahoo.com or Barb and Chuck Watson at bwatsonjb@yahoo.com to add your name to the email list.

EUCHRE

Euchre groups meet once a month in each others' homes. We currently have ten 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 beverage are involved. The players within any group are of varying levels of experience. Euchre, in Newcomers, is a social, not a competitive event.

If you would like to be added to the sub list, contact Ed Crippen at edcrippen@yahoo.com.

This group is in need of a leader. Interested? Contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net.

FILM GROUP

Thursday, September 11

The film group is a casual fun group made up of people

who love 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. The group may occasionally add an extra film date during any given month if a film looks interesting and it's not available at the time of the regular meeting date.

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

Late August and early September is salmon time in the bays. Pete Albers, the group leader, will be setting up salmon charters if there is enough interest. Many fishing seasons end on September 30, so check the regulations before going out in October. Late summer and early fall are great times to go fishing as there are fewer people fishing and the warm lake water moderates the air temperature.

Contact Pete Albers at phalbers99@gmail.com or 231-922-7289 if you're interested in joining the group.

GARDENING

Wednesday, September 17, 10 a.m.

The Garden Club will meet for a guided tour of Pine Hill nursery in Kewadin. Those planning to attend should meet at Toms' West Bay at 10 a.m.

Lunch will be in the Garden Cafe where two entrees will be available for \$10. (Quiche and a salad or a chicken wrap and apple.) A dessert of cookies and brownies plus tea and coffee are included. Where possible, ingredients for lunch are grown on-site. Wine is also available for additional cost. Alana, Pine Hill's in-house expert, will discuss preparing your garden for the cold months ahead. If interested please contact Gloria Dean at gloriajdean@gmail.com or 810-348-4189. Please provide your lunch choice at that time.

This group is in need of a co-leader in 2015. Interested? Contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net.

GOLF

The group is still alive and having fun on Mondays. Both women and men are golfing this year.

On August 4 the group goes to Briar North. A pizza is included for every foursome; \$25 per person including the cart. The group is averaging 20 members per outing.

All current members are eligible to join so come on out and

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ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 5)
have some fun in the sun.

For information, contact Dale Wentzloff at dale@wentzloff.com.

REMAINING GOLF FOR 2014

August 25	Emerald Vale	9:30 AM
September 8	Eldorado	10:00 AM
September 15	A-Ga-Ming Antrim Dells	10:00 AM
September 22	Grandview	10:00 AM
September 29	Leelanau Club	10:00 AM
October 6	Elmbrook	10:00 AM
October 13	The Crown	10:00 AM

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesday, September 10, 9 a.m.

This group meets at the Omelette Shoppe next to Wild Birds Unlimited store in the Campus Plaza the second Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. 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 231-933-9321.

MICROBREW GROUP

Thursday, September 25

The Microbrew Group will be meeting monthly throughout the fall. The next tentative date is Thursday, September 25.

If you have questions/comments, or wish to join the group, please contact Joel McElrath at jmcelrath@epri.com or 650-714-4557.

NEWCOMERS NEEDLERS

Thursday, September 4 & 18, 1 – 3 p.m.

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 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 of the month, 1 to 3 p.m., at [Aroma's Coffee Shop](#) at the intersection of M-22 and M-72, across from Tom's West Bay.

Have questions or want to be added to the email list for reminders? Contact Robbin Stott, stottrobbin@gmail.com or 231-932-1709 for more information.

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

This group meets at a well-rated restaurant at 1 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. There is no event scheduled for September.

For information about the group, contact Sis Leake at sisleake@charter.net or 231-313-3310.

PADDLING

Friday, August 22, 10 a.m.

The group plans a paddle on the Cedar River. Meet in the parking lot to launch at 11 a.m. For information, contact Paula Hartmann at phartmann1625@gmail.com or 231-922-1625.

This group is in need of a leader. Interested? Contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net.

POKER

Tuesday, September 2, 1 p.m.

The poker group usually meets the first Tuesday of the month, with winter hours of 1 to 4 p.m. and summer hours of 6 to 9 p.m. 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 and no weapons are produced. The group plays dealer's choice, which sometimes evokes a response, "Did you just make that up?" But we all like new games we haven't played before. The host merely has to provide the home and setup; participants bring snacks and drinks.

The September 2 meeting will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. The host will be Dale Wentzloff. Contact Dale at dale@wentzloff.com if you plan to attend. Dale will send information and directions prior to the game. The poker group coordinator is Mike Huffman at wdcspike@yahoo.com or 517-655-3374.

THEATRE GROUP

Saturday, October 4, 7:30 p.m.

The Theatre Group attends plays each month at the Old Town Playhouse - either the Main Stage or the Studio. The group meets for dinner before each production, and a member of the OTP staff comes to speak with us about the current production. The group qualifies for discounted tickets and purchases tickets separately through the OTP director.

The Theatre Group's first play this season with OTP will be *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. The performance is at the OTP's Main Stage on Saturday, October 4, at 7:30 p.m.

We will meet for dinner at 5 p.m. and the director of the Playhouse will talk to us about the play and answer any questions. Tickets will likely be available in mid September.

If you're interested in the Theatre Group's activities, contact Terrill Persky or Sandy Stockemer to receive our emails for this and future events. Terrill: terrillpersky@gmail.com or at 231-922-8153; Sandy: sandystockemer@gmail.com or at 231-932-2276.

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VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE/BIJOU

Thursday, August 21, 2:30 p.m./State, approx. 4 p.m./Bijou
Thursday, September 3, 2:30 p.m./State, approx. 4 p.m./Bijou
Thursday, September 18, 2:30 p.m./State, approx. 4 p.m./Bijou

State/Bijou Theatres Volunteers: Join us as we work in the concession area, take tickets, sweep floors, usher or run errands. 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 to 5:15 p.m. at the State and 4 to 6:15 p.m. at the Bijou (subject to change as the movie schedule dictates). Join us for dinner after 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

Saturday, September 20, 11 a.m.

This group will walk the trails at Grand Traverse Commons. To get there, take Division Street to 11th Street and turn west. Go to the second stop sign and turn left. Follow Silver Drive to Brown Drive and turn right. You will drive past the apartment building on your left to the parking lot by the ISD building.

If you want to join up for this walk please contact Don Eastway at luremug@yahoo.com.

WINE TASTING

The first wine tasting of the season will take place the first week of October. Details to follow. This group is looking for a new group leader to take over in December. Edie Brown will work with whoever would like to lead this group.

Sign up for the Wine Tasting Group if you would like to participate in any tastings (even if you were in the group this past year.) You can sign up at the Kickoff Dinner or send Edie, ediebk@gmail.com, an email to be added to the list. Because our club membership is growing, all wine tasting activities will be limited to active members of the Newcomers Club, which means no guests.

Don't Miss the Latest!

Add newcomerstc1@gmail.com to your address book to ensure you get the latest information from your Newcomers Club.

Newcomers eCookbook

As you eat your way through Newcomers activities, remember to save those favorite recipes to share in our eCookbook. Send recipes to Sandy Stockemer - sandystockemer@gmail.com. To access the eCookbook, go to gtnewcomers.org>Activities. Click on "Culinary" on the left side, then scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the link.

NEW MEMBERS*

Jim & Roberta Amstadt
Traverse City, MI

Bob & Ruth Campbell
Grosse Point Park, MI

Tom & Elaine Lufkin
Grand Haven, MI

Gary Shepard
Ocala, FL
(Summer only)

Mary Bales
Traverse City, MI

Bill & Karen Cogger
Sarasota, FL

Jim Marrese
Grand Rapids, MI

Noel & Juanita Watson
Ashland, OH

Mike Bell & Claire Thomas
Houston, TX

Jeff Gagie
Kalamazoo, MI

Ray & Carol Musser
Leesburg, VA

*May 18 to Aug. 8, 2014

Bill & Lois Bryne
Troy, MI

Susan Kraus
New York, NY

Tom & Jean Sarasin
Okemos, MI

Robert & Janet Cahill
Tampa, FL

Cindy Kuiphof
Tucson, AZ

Dennis & Alice Seppanen
Rochester Hills, MI



Mixing Your Passion with Your Free Time

Volunteer Fair Slated for November General Meeting

Have you ever wanted to be a volunteer, but just couldn't find the right organization to fit your passion?

On November 17, members of the Newcomers Club will have an opportunity to learn about many less-known, nonprofit organizations unique to the Grand Traverse area.

"In an effort to fulfill our club's mission and to increase our volunteer service to the community, we are planning a volunteer fair," said **Marsha Andres**, who co-chairs the volunteer fair committee with **Dale Wentzloff**.

"We hope to bring together 20 or more agencies at our general meeting in November to inform members about volunteer opportunities that are not well known to the general public."

Representatives of local nonprofit organizations will talk and staff information tables at the volunteer fair from **6 to 9 p.m. November 17** at the Presbyterian Church of Traverse City, 701 Westminster Road.

"It should be a fun evening as Newcomers can go from table to table, learning about volunteer opportunities in a number of areas of interest," Dale said.

A variety of agencies will be represented. Categories include animal welfare, the arts, community service, conservation, education, health and human services, and recreation and youth services. A unique raffle with local prizes also is being planned.

More information on the volunteer fair will be available through the Newcomers Club's email, newsletter and website, www.gtnewcomers.org.



The Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse
C/O Bob Knaack - Membership
P.O. Box 8
Acme, MI 49610-0008

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