



Newcomers News

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

February
2010

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February 2

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COUNTRY SKIING

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**VOLUNTEER AT THE
STATE THEATRE**

February 18

Please join us for our February Program:

SLEEPING BEAR DUNES NATIONAL LAKESHORE

Tuesday, February 23, 2010
7:00 PM

Traverse Are District Library
610 Woodmere Avenue
Traverse City

Did you know that Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore, established in October 1970, is one of four National Lakeshores; all of which are on the Great Lakes?

Join Jennifer Wurtz, lead interpreter for the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, at the Traverse City Library and discover more about this fascinating natural wonder right in our own back yard!

The park covers a 35-mile stretch of Lake Michigan's eastern coastline, as well as North and South Manitou Islands. Learn about the history of the park and the many attractions it provides for local residents and visitors from around the world. The Sleeping Bear Point Coast Guard Station Maritime Museum, the Port Oneida Historic Farm District and the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive are among the attractions you can enjoy.

The Visitor's Center in Empire is the gateway to the park.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse is a social and civic organization whose purpose is to extend a welcoming hand to people living in the Grand Traverse area. The Newcomers Club also provides opportunities to meet and to socialize with other relocated people, sharing common interests.

Visit us on the web
at
gtnewcomers.org

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PRESIDENTS' NOTE

February 2010



Bob Pelto & Susanne Bonner

We have entered the first year of the new decade, or the last year of the eventful aught decade. We won't go into that discussion about when decades end or start; but the status of the Newcomers Club is in jeopardy. Well it's not really the status and I guess the club is not in jeopardy, but we have to make some important choices. We need to find more time in which to partake of all the activities the club has to offer. Some of the options are to add more hours to the day, more days to the week, or to clone ourselves. The first two are out of the question, we would have to buy new clocks, watches and day planners and, as for cloning ourselves, I'm afraid my clone may have more fun than me. Where does my mind go when I start to use it? (...Bob speaking....)

Moving right along to catch you up with past club events: The auction in November was very successful. The new venue worked out beyond our wildest dreams, and the generosity of our members netted \$2484.00. We will use these funds to partially subsidize all of our major events. In addition, the printing, mailing and operations of the club are covered by these funds. And, for the Ranch Rudolf hootenanny coming up in June, the cost per person will be even less than last year, making this function more attractive. The holiday dinner dance was a great big hit. There were 79 beautiful people in attendance. We had a door prize raffle and of the four winners, three were new members. What a way to welcome them to the club! The location will be changing but the fun will be the same come December next.

Our co-vice presidents, Jim Neibauer and Marshall Persky, have put together a Newcomer Club monthly program schedule for the rest of the year that you will find irresistible.

And, most important, members are needed to fill board positions for the coming year. Details will be in the March newsletter.

One other note — if you are receiving unsolicited, unwanted, forwarded emails from club members, reply to the sender and ask to be put on the "do not mail" list.

Until we meet again, happy trails to you.

Susanne & Bob

Mark your Calendars for An Upcoming Event:

Tuesday, March 23, 2010: Mark your calendars now for a special presentation by **Ed Downing**, Executive Director of the **Traverse Symphony Orchestra**. Ed is a dynamic speaker whose enthusiasm for the orchestra comes through in this program. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about the history, musical director, and musicians of this Traverse City jewel. March 23 at the Library, socializing at 6:30 PM, Newcomers meeting at 7:00 PM, program at 7:15 PM. Be there!



Movie Madness

Ten wild and crazy film fans ventured out on Thursday evening, December 10th, in the aftermath of T.C.'s first real snow storm to see "Brothers" at the Horizon Theater (see group photo). Both of our co-presidents were on the scene. Of course, one of them, who shall remain nameless (his name starts with B and is spelled the same backwards and forwards) had no choice. Marlowe and Susanne Bonner, Joe Coffman, Don Eastway, Diana and Jerry Hawkins, Dennis and Sandy Stockemer and yours truly were all in attendance for both the movie and the afterglow. We all agreed that "Brothers" is a definite Oscar-worthy film. The film has great acting by all cast members and terrific directing.

Dennis and Sandy still live in Rochester in the winter but come back up to Traverse City for Newcomers Euchre and the Film Group. We hope to get them to come up for longer stretches in the winter months so they can enjoy even more activities.

Marlowe gets the Oscar nomination for the most dedicated member of the group. He has *never* missed an outing since the group was established. Marlowe is actively employed and travels around the state during the week. He was downstate on Thursday to see a client but drove all the way back to town so as not to miss December's movie. It's not the first time he's demonstrated such dedication.

Don Eastway also works but manages to find the energy to attend many of the Film Groups' outings.

Joe Coffman, another working stiff, is a walking encyclopedia of movie history and a former film critic. Joe is currently teaching English at the college and I fear his red pencil in regards to this article. But we always seek his opinions regarding films.

Jerry likes to attend the film group as it is an activity where he can't lose a ball.

We all went to the Firefly after the movie where Diana and Sandy lit up. Well, actually their earrings did. Earlier in the day Dennis gifted both of them with flashing strobe Christmas earrings. Luckily, no one had a seizure. But we all started humming "Staying Alive." Everyone had a great time. So much so that we finally had to leave the Firefly as the staff were stacking the chairs on the tables and sweeping the floor. It was a **big hint** that we should leave as they were closing the place.

Our next outing will be on Thursday, February 11, 2010. Hope to see **you** at the movies!

Submitted by Judy Pelto, Film Group Activity Leader

ACTIVITY GROUPS

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, February 2, 10:00 AM

Our January meeting had some new members and a great discussion of the book, *Olive Kitteridge*. Please join us in February for *Starvation Lake* by Bryan Gruley. Gruley is a journalist living in Chicago, but uses this Northern Michigan location for the setting of his mysteries. Bernadette Albers will lead the discussion. Our March selection is *The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

We meet the first Tuesday of the month in the lower level of Horizon Books at 10:00 am. We go to lunch following the discussion. For information, call Letha Cairns at 231-271-6831 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 Thursday of each month, 11:30 AM, at Scott's Harbor Grille.

Call Judy Owen, 922-9619.

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 richardrbodette@cs.com.

DINNER OUT

Sunday, February 21, 5:30 PM

Greetings to all. Hard to believe it's already February and time to get together, catch up, drink up and chow down! We will rendezvous at Cambria Suites at 255 Munson Avenue, just east of the Dennon Museum. Cambria Suites just opened this past June and provides a lovely environment for socializing. We will gather in their charming lobby around the cozy warm fireplace at 5:30 PM for cocktails followed by dinner. Happy hour runs until 7:00 PM offering some quite nice wines for \$5, and \$2 off other alcoholic beverages; complimentary chips and salsa. Their menu offers a wide variety of options for your dining pleasure.

Please RSVP before February 17th to Michele Richard at 231-944-5844 or marichard43@yahoo.com. Looking forward to seeing you all!

EUCHRE

Euchre groups meet once a month in each other's homes. We currently have seven 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 also involved.

The groups are more social rather than serious, so don't be hesitant to join if you haven't played in awhile or are a newer player. If you have a rudimentary understanding of the game and want to join in the fun, contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net or call 231-668-6490.



Nan Harris' Euchre 1 buddies are calling this winner's necklace a "once-in-a-lifetime event".....

FILM GROUP

Thursday, February 11

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.

Watch your email or check the website for specifics. Anyone interested in joining the group should contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net or 231-668-6490.

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ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 4)

FISHING

Ice fishing season is rapidly approaching. Group members are encouraged to contact each other about opportunities to engage in frigid fishing.

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

MEN'S BOOK CLUB

Monday, February 22, 10:00 AM

The book selection for January was "End the Fed" by Ron Paul. Our presenter was Brad Spencer. The book for February is "Younger Next Year" by Chris Crowley and Henry Lodge and our presenter will be Lou Ricord. This book examines the aging process in men (there is an equivalent book oriented toward women) from the perspective of personal experience (Chris Crowley) and medical explanation (Dr. Henry Lodge).

The club meets in the lower level of Horizon Books the fourth Monday of each month at 10:00 AM. New members are welcome whether you have read the book or not. We sometimes go to lunch at a local restaurant following the meeting.

Contact Pete Albers for questions and information, phalbers99@gmail.com or 922-7289.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesday, February 10, 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: gkobernus@chartermi.net or 933-9321.

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, February 10, 1:00 PM

We will have lunch at Bud's Restaurant, 3061 M-137, Interlochen, MI 49643. Bud's was a favorite in the Interlochen community for many years, starting in the 1950s. In May, 2008 a completely rebuilt Bud's opened its doors. (See their story and menu at: [http://www.budsisback.com/.](http://www.budsisback.com/))

Contact Sis Leake at 929-7036 by **Monday, February 8**, for reservations and so that car pools can be formed.



A few members of the Poker Group braved the weather to travel to Dan Klimaszewski's house for the January meeting.

Standing from left: Dan Klimaszewski, Larry Sanko, Arnie Taddia, Rich Hoover and Mike Huffman.

Seated from left: Mike Clear, Jerry Hawkins, Tom Custance and Joe Harris.

POKER

Tuesday, February 2, 12:00 PM

The poker group usually 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 the home and setup, while members bring snacks and drinks.

The February meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2, and **this month will start at 12 noon**. The host for the February meeting will be Mike Clear. Please contact Mike by phone or e-mail or the group coordinator if you plan to attend. Mike's phone number is 231-421-1618. Mike's e-mail is mjkcLEAR@charter.net.

The poker group coordinator is Mike Huffman. Phone is 517-655-3374. Email is wcdspike@yahoo.com.

QUILTING

Tuesday, February 9, 1:00 PM

The February quilt meeting will be at the home of Judy Munsie (6337 Lower Valley Ct., TC. 263-1006). We will meet for a continuation on paper piecing. Please bring red scraps of fabric for this activity. I would also like for members to bring your favorite quilting tool as part of your "show and tell".

Please RSVP to Judy (jmunsie000@centurytel.net) and Pauline (jwatt1107@charter.net) if you plan to attend.

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ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 5)



Newcomers enjoy a beautiful [cold] January morning snowshoeing at Muncie Lake (The editor would like to thank the photographer, Arnie Taddia, for submitting this picture.)

SNOWSHOE/CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Saturday February 13, 11:00 AM

Sand Lake Quiet Area

Follow M72 East past Turtle Creek Casino to Broomhead Rd. (first rd after Ginop Sales). Turn right and go approximately 3.5 miles, through 2 curves to trail head parking on the left (watch for signs).

Saturday February 27, 11:00 AM

Lake Ann Pathway

Take US31 about 5 miles West of Interlochen. Turn right (north) onto Reynolds Rd. (just past BP Gas Station). Go approximately 4 miles. Trail head parking lot on the right side of the Rd. **ALTERNATE ROUTE:** West on M72 from TC past West Michigan Landfill to Reynolds Rd. Left on Reynolds Rd to Almira Rd (M610). Right on Almira Rd for a short distance to Reynolds Rd. Left on Reynolds Rd. Go about a mile and Trail head parking on the left.

If you are interested in joining any or all of these outings please contact Don Eastway at cadillac2154@yahoo.com or phone 213 884-1106.

SOLOS

Friday, February 26, 7:00 PM

Solos will meet at Judy Owen's house for game night at 7:00 PM.

Call for directions: 922-9619.

Right: Solos enjoy brunch at the Bluebird Restaurant in Leland

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE THEATRE

Thursday, February 18, 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 usually slow. It is designed to introduce you to the State and help you determine whether you'd like to move to a busier time on your own. You are more than welcome to remain at this less active level too. Sometimes we have more volunteers than theater-goers.

We work on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 2:30 PM to 5:15 PM. Join us for dinner after if you have time.

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



BEWARE THE TAXMAN

We all have shared the joys of moving Up North, the new surroundings, the new friends and the myriad of activities. However, there are some realities that some of us share which are much more of a 'downer'.

Back in 1991, a group of homeowners in our neighborhood went in together to purchase a five acre parcel which they labeled a park. Over the years hundreds of people used the land for playing ball, sledding, running their dogs or picnicking. As time passed, some of the owners sold their homes and some have died. The park ownership has become a muddled affair.

Then, in 2006, when one owner sold their portion of the land, the county reassessed the property. Despite the fact that the land was called a park, it is in reality zoned residential. The taxes rose 770%. Because of the convoluted ownership and the inability to raise sufficient funds, the land may soon go up for auction as the taxes have not been paid.

If you have vacant property in your neighborhood which is owned by multiple parties, including your association, it would be wise to check into its status to avoid a similar unhappy ending for you.

Editor's note: This article was written by Tom Custance, former Co-President of the Newcomers Club.

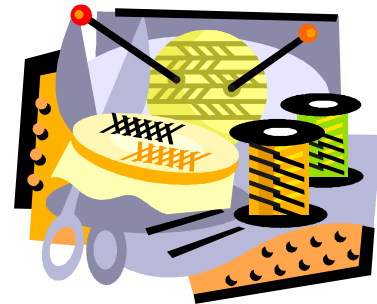
Helping Hands Request

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

Please notify
Judy Owens at 922-9619
jowen9619@charter.net
if you know of any of these
circumstances.

Thanks from the Northwest Food Coalition

Val Stone, the facilitator of the Northwest Food Coalition, sends her thanks and appreciation for the food and money donated by the Newcomers Club. The food was collected at the Christmas Dinner Dance. She noted that food pantries have served more people this year than previous years.



If you have an interest in knitting, crochet or any needlework--we have a fledgling group which meets the first and third Thursday of the month from 1-3:00 at Cuppa Joe in the warehouse district. Contact Sandy Seppala for more information.

Sansep19@earthlink.net or 231-421-3343.

Patronize our sponsors

Associates in Family Dentistry

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

BATA- Public Transportation

3233 Cass Rd., TC 941-2324

Benjamin Franklin —The

Punctual Plumber

929-9999

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

3311 S. Airport Rd., TC
231-590-0272

Chemical Bank

10691 E. Carter Rd., TC
941-4578

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.dgnpcpa.com

Dennos Museum Center

1701 E. Front St., TC
995-1055

Eastland Apothecary Shoppe

1217 E. Front St., TC
947-9825

Edward Jones

Colleen Etue
12930 SW Bayshore Dr, TC
231-947-3032

Ecowater Systems of TC

1-800-599-0311 or
ecowater.com

Farm Bureau Insurance

Jeff Needham 947-9452
540 S. Garfield Ave., TC

Gaudette & Co CPAs

1107 East 8th St. , TC
946-8930

Gold Canyon Candles

Christine Stalsonburg
231-421-3172

www.mycg.com/CDcandles

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 Heritage 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

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

Mary Kay Cosmetics

Pat Westbrook 929-1830

Merrill Lynch

Briant Sikorski, 231-922-6831
333 W. Grandview Pkwy, 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

Precision Plumbing & Heating

2829 Cass Rd., T.C.
231-947-0100 or
231-275-5273

Recycle Smart

www.recyclesmart.info
Recycle Hotline 941-5555

Reynolds-Jonkhoff

Funeral Home

305 6th St., TC 947-6347

State Farm Insurance

Mark Newhouse
933-5400

Stone Mountain Carpets

Charlie Stiehl
800-786-6333

The Mom's Club of Grand

Traverse Area

www.TheMomsClub.net

Traverse City Beach Bums

Wuerfel Park
333 Stadium Drive
Ticket office: 231-943-0100

Traverse City Record Eagle

Newspaper

946-2000

Traverse Magazine

148 E. Front St., TC
941-8174



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