



Newcomers News

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

January
2011

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY PROGRAM
Tuesday, January 25

BOOK CLUB
January 4

BRIDGE
January 20

DINNER OUT
January 23

EUCHRE
Various, see p. 4

FILM GROUP
January 13

FISHING
TBA, see p. 4

MEN'S BOOK CLUB
January 24

MEN'S BREAKFAST
January 12

NEWCOMERS NEEDLERS
January 6 & 20

OUT TO LUNCH
January 12

POKER
January 4

**SNOWSHOE/CROSS-
COUNTRY SKIING**

January 8
January 22

SOLOS
Various, see pp. 5-6

SUNDAY SUPPER for 8
January 9

**VOLUNTEER AT THE
STATE THEATRE**

January 5
January 20

Visit us on the web
at
gtnewcomers.org

Join us for the January Program:

Doug Stanton An Evening with a Local Author

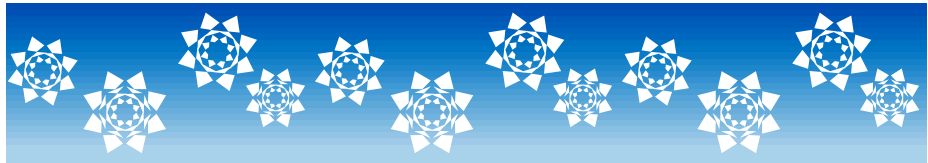
Tuesday January 25, 2011
6:30 pm

Grand Traverse Heritage Center
322 Sixth Street
Traverse City, MI 49684-2414

Did you miss the chance to hear Traverse City's own Doug Stanton speak at the sold out author presentation at the Opera House last year? Here's your second chance!

The author's bestselling book *The Horse Soldier* is the riveting story of the first large American unconventional warfare operation since WWII. Doug will detail how, following 9/11, Special Forces rode to war on horses to fight the Taliban in Afghanistan. With unprecedented direct access to the military, his telling of the making of this book will captivate you. In addition, he will discuss his book *In Harm's Way*, about the USS Indianapolis sunk in WWII, and the National Writers Series, a year-round book festival in downtown Traverse City which he founded in 2009.

A former contributing editor at *Esquire*, *Sports Afield*, *Outside*, and a current contributing editor at *Men's Journal*, Doug's experiences and style make for a special evening. Doug will take questions following his talk.



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PRESIDENTS' NOTE

January 2011

It's the time of year when we all take a look back at the old year and a peek at the year ahead. Some of my Newcomer 2010 highlights:



Jo Anne Gerben & Marshall Persky

- Point Betsie Lighthouse history presented by John Hawley at the library.
- The Monday I shot a 93 with the Newcomer Golfers! It didn't make up for all the times I shot over 100 but it sure was a fun day.
- The KickOff Dinner in September when we met all the new members. We are thrilled to have so many new members to keep the Club vital.
- The blast we all had at the Holiday Party.

What were some of your favorite events?

. . . and now for 2011. It sounds like our VP's have put together some exciting programs. Please note, instead of meeting at the TC Library our monthly meetings will be held at the Grand Traverse Heritage Center on 6th Street in Traverse City.

- To kick things off, Doug Stanton, the premier Traverse City author, will speak about his experiences writing the New York Times bestseller *Horse Soldiers* and other things he is working on.
- We have additional programs ranging from feeding the birds, another local author and, something totally different, a game night. More details will follow in coming Newsletters so stay tuned!

Jo Anne and I want to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and especially a HEALTHY New Year.

Marshall

2010—2011 Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse Member Directory

The updated Newcomers Member Directory is now available in living color to view and print online at www.gtnewcomers.org. It can be found in the "Members Area" of the web site.

All new members should have received a copy of the Newcomers Club Member Directory and Handbook in the mail. Hard copies of the Directory will not be automatically distributed to renewing members. If you wish to receive a hard copy of the Directory, please contact Robin Timmerman. She will be happy to mail one to you. Robin can be reached at seahawk1944@yahoo.com, by calling 231-668-7579, or by writing to her at 6363 Cedarmere, Traverse City, MI 49686.

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, February 22: Presentation by Tom Ford, naturalist at Wild Birds Unlimited.

Tuesday, March 22: Mardi Link, local author, will discuss her book, *Isadore's Secret*, which is set in and around the Leelanau community of Cedar.

NOTE: Just a reminder that these meetings will be held at the Grand Traverse Heritage Center, 322 Sixth St., Traverse City. Look for more information about these programs in upcoming editions of the Newcomers News.



By all accounts, the Holiday Dinner Dance held on Thursday, December 9 at the Traverse City Country Club was a big success. Ninety-five Newcomers enjoyed good food, dancing to wonderful music from Jazz North, and great company. A good time was had by all!



ACTIVITY GROUPS

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, January 4, 10:30 AM & 1:30 PM

Both the morning and the afternoon book groups meet on the first Tuesday of the month in the lower level of Horizon Books.

January's book is *Chronicle of a Death Foretold* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. It is one of the Nobel Prizewinning author's shorter novels. The book's power lies in the unique way in which Garcia Marquez relates the plot of a murder about which everyone knows before it happens.

Bernadette Albers will lead the morning book discussion. Nancy Harris will lead the afternoon discussion.

Katie Brown is the activity leader for the morning session. You may contact her at 231-922-9389 or (note new email address) jkbrow@att.net.

Terrill Persky is the activity leader for the afternoon session. You may contact her at 231-922-8153 or terrillpersky@gmail.com.

The women's book groups have a combined membership of 51 avid readers!

MIXED PARTY BRIDGE

Thursday, January 20, 7:00 PM

This group meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 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, January 23, 5:30 PM

Tired, exhausted, done with the holidays, cabin fever? Come out and join us at Pangea's Pizza for a mouthwatering experience. Pangea's has reunited the diverse "Food Flavors" of the seven continents, so sit back, relax, smell the smells, taste the tastes and experience the zesty zest of Pangea's Pizza which up until now had been exclusively reserved for the ancient pagans.

Pangea's is downtown on Front Street, close and easy to find. The Girrback family is providing us with complimentary appetizers and are excited to meet all the newcomers. We gather at 5:30 PM for conversation and cocktails; as usual drinks are on your own. Their menu offers wonderful salads, pasta, and gluten free options, etc.

Please **RSVP only if you plan to attend no later than January 17** to Michele Richard 231-944-5844 or

richard.michele@rocketmail.com.

Pangea's Pizza Pub - 135 Front St. Downtown TC 946-9800

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 involved.

The groups are more social than serious, so don't be hesitant to join if you haven't played in a while 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.

FILM GROUP

Thursday, January 13

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.

In December the group had its largest turnout to date. Thirty-three people met at the State Theater to see *Winter's Bone* and we all went to Minerva's afterward for food, libations and discussion.

Watch your email or check the web site for specifics each month. Notification as to the film, time and place is emailed to group members a few days before the outing. Anyone interested in joining the group may contact Judy Pelto at jpelto1@charter.net.

FISHING

Steelhead fishing is slow in the Boardman River and spotty in other Lake Michigan tributaries. Ice is forming on inland lakes and should be safe by January — be careful. Contact one another for any special trips or fishing opportunities.

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

(Continued on page 5)

ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 4)
activities.

MEN'S BOOK CLUB

Monday, January 24, 10:00 AM

The Men's Book Club meets in the lower level of Horizon Books in Traverse City. Our selection for January is *Special Tasks* by Pavel Sudoplatov. We welcome any man who might want to participate, regardless of whether or not he has previously attended our meetings and even read the book. We always have a friendly, interesting and insightful discussion, usually followed by lunch at a local eatery.

Members and potential members are cordially invited to join us. Contact Ralph Mittelberger for questions and information, mittelberger.ralph@arentfox.com.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

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

NEWCOMERS NEEDLERS

January 6 & 20, 1—3 PM

Start out 2011 with a project and join the Needlers as we knit, stitch, crochet, hook rugs, and do needlepoint. We meet twice a month to enjoy the company, sit by the fire, enjoy an afternoon cuppa, and have an uninterrupted session of needling.

We meet on the first and third Thursdays, 1—3 PM, at the Aroma's Coffee Shop (<http://www.aromascoffeeshop.com/>) at Kid's Creek shopping center on Division, just south of 14th Street. The next dates are January 6 and 20.

Have questions, want to be on the email list, or just want to let us know you'll be there? Contact Sandy Seppala, sansep19@earthlink.net, 421-3343 or 703-597-7925 (cell).

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

Wednesday, January 12, 1:00 PM

Our January lunch location is Phil's on Front Restaurant and Chocolate Bar — who can resist that combination? Phil's is located at 236 E. Front in Traverse City, across from the State Theater.

Contact Sis Leake at 929-7036 by **Monday, January 10**, for reservations and so that car pools can be formed.

POKER

Tuesday, January 4, 1:30 PM

The poker group meets the 1st Tuesday of the month, with winter hours of 1:30 – 4:30 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 January meeting will be hosted by Dan Klimaszewski. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 4th from 1:30 to 4:30 PM. Please contact Dan by phone or e-mail or the group coordinator if you plan to attend the January meeting. Dan's e-mail is danklim1@gmail.com. Dan's phone is 231-228-4245.

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

SNOWSHOE/CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING

Saturday January 8, 11:00 AM Hickory Meadows

From Division Street, turn onto Randolph heading west. Go 1½ miles to parking lot on the right.

Saturday January 22, 11:00 AM Grand Traverse Commons

Take 6th Street west to Brook/Red Drive and turn left. Continue to the four-way stop and go straight across to Cottageview. Follow Cottageview to Silver and turn right. The parking lot is ½ mile ahead on the right.

Anyone interested in joining in on these outings **please contact Don Eastway** at muglure@yahoo.com or phone 231-884-1106.

Note: I need someone to host the two outings in February because I will be in Texas. I have the outings all planned, just need someone to host. If anyone can help, please contact me ASAP.

SOLOS

January 12, 4:30 PM Movie at Judy's house. Will order pizza and plan activities for the year. Suggest a film or Judy will order from Netflix. RSVP to Judy 922-9619.

January 14 or 16 Afternoon/early evening sleigh ride depending on availability, interest and weather. Call Judy.

(Continued on page 6)

ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 5)

January 23, 3:00 PM Mitch Albom's play at the Old Town Playhouse, *Duck Hunter Shoots Angel*, \$18.

February 4, 8:00 PM African Guitars at the Dennon, \$25.

SUNDAY SUPPER for 8

Sunday, January 9, 6:00 PM

December's Sunday Supper for 8 feasted on beef brisket, flank steak, kugel, Thai slaw and desserts to die for. Ya 'll come and join this delicious, conversation group and get to really know your newcomer friends.

The next supper will be held on January 9 at 6:00 PM.

Come and join us. The host will serve the main dish. Guests will bring a dish to pass. Hosts and guests will rotate monthly. New couples, solos and new subs are always welcome.

For more information please call Izzy at 231-421-8171 or email izzyandmike@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE THEATRE

Wednesday, January 5 & Thursday, January 20

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 now have two shifts per month and you may choose the one you prefer. We now work on the first Wednesday and the third Thursday of each month from 2:30 PM until 5:15 PM. Join us for dinner afterwards if you have time. The dates for January are Wednesday, January 5 and Thursday, January 20, 2011.

Contact Nancy Johnson at johns526@msu.edu or 231-668-9633 if you would like to be added to the list of potential volunteers.



Michele Richard, Robin Timmerman, Pat Haber and Pam Doty-Nation enjoy the Hungarian-themed December Sunday Supper for 8.

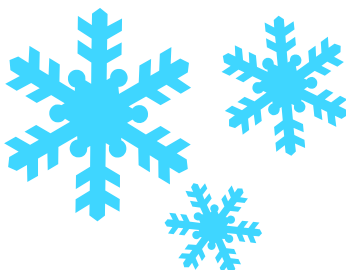


Book Exchange

During the last few years at some of our monthly programs we started a very casual book exchange. It was a success and all of the books happily disappeared. So, we are going to offer the exchange again at our January meeting at the Grand Traverse Heritage Center.

Bring your fireside reads and literary wonders to the program and put them on the designated table. Look around at the other donations and take whatever you want. At the end of the evening, check the table again. If any of your books are still there, take them home. We don't want anyone to be responsible for storing or recycling them at a future meeting.

Now isn't that easy?



LET'S GO TRAVELING!

WOW is the only way to describe the Newcomer's first group trip as we head **Way Out West!**

Join us for a week of high adventure and breathtaking scenery as we tour the Canadian Rockies between Calgary and Vancouver via motor coach and two days aboard the Canadian Rocky Mountaineer train.

Here are just a few of the trip highlights:

- an afternoon to enjoy beautiful Lake Louise and an overnight at the world famous Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise Hotel
- a gondola ride to a mountain summit to view snow covered peaks and valleys
- some time to explore Banff National Park on your own, or soak in the mineral pools at Upper Hot Springs.

The absolute highlight of the trip is two days taking in the sights of the Rockies aboard the scenic dome rail car of the Canadian Rocky Mountaineer enjoying their *Goldleaf* first-class accommodations including complimentary snacks and alcoholic or non-alcoholic beverages served at your seat, and gourmet breakfasts and appetizing lunches served in the lower-level dining room. The two day train travel includes a hotel overnight in Kamloops.

Don't miss out—it's a great time with good friends sharing a spectacular trip! The trip departs from Detroit on Thursday, May 19 and returns on Wednesday, May 25. Participants may also arrange their own flights should they wish to use frequent flyer miles or spend additional time in the Calgary or Vancouver areas.

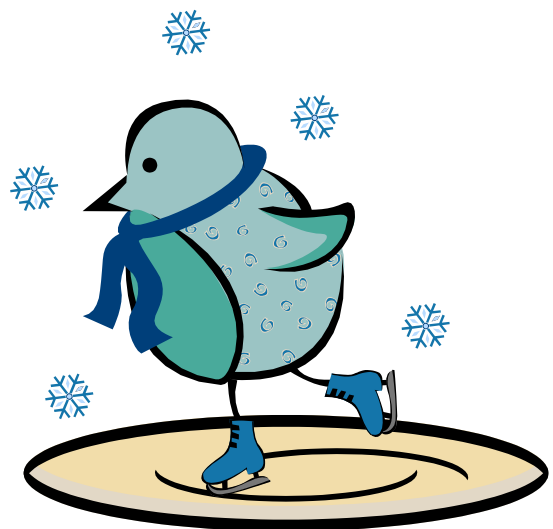
While we are waiting on final airfare quotes, the trip is estimated to cost approximately \$3,400-\$3,600 per person (including air).

If you have interest in this trip and would like to receive a detailed e-brochure prepared for us by Rocky Mountaineer or have additional questions, please email Dennis Stockemer at dstockemer@comcast.net.



WEB SITE REDESIGN

Our web site - www.gtnewcomers.org - has undergone a total redesign and is now live. It has been updated with a new look and feel. The web site's 'Calendar' tab is a good source to check out all our activities; the 'Links' tab includes lots of things to do and see and lists volunteer opportunities in the area; and the 'Members' tab includes the current members' directory. Check out our 'new' web site - and if you have any suggestions or photos, please contact our Newcomers Webmaster Lynn Huffman at lhuffman@gamnet.com.



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946-9644

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2544 Crossing Circle (next to
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231-922-1422
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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

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

**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
9471-900/947-6510

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

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

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Recycle Hotline 941-5555

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**The Mom's Club of Grand
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www.TheMomsClub.net

Traverse City Beach Bums
Wuerfel Park
333 Stadium Drive
Ticket office: 231-943-0100

**Traverse City Record Eagle
Newspaper**
946-2000



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