



Newcomers News

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

April
2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

April PROGRAM

Tuesday, April 28

BOARD MEETING

April 13

BIKING GROUP

April 18

BOOK CLUB

April 7

BRIDGE

Various, see p. 4

DINNER OUT

April 26

EUCHRE

Various, see p. 4

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April 9

FISHING

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MEN'S BOOK CLUB

April 27

MEN'S BREAKFAST

April 8

OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH

April 8

POKER

April 7

QUILTING

April 14

SOLOS

April 19 & 26

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE THEATER

April 16

WALK IN THE WOODS

April 11

Come join us for the April program:

HELP FOR CRISES AND LIFE TRANSITIONS

Tuesday, April 28, 2009
7:00 PM

Traverse Area District Library
610 Woodmere Avenue
Traverse City

Mickie Jannazzo, Director of Crisis Services for Third Level Crisis Intervention Center, will present information about this agency's vital programs and services in our communities. Third Level provides critical human services in our area such as suicide prevention, crisis intervention, information about and referral to health and human services, legal services, and the full range of services for runaway, homeless and street youth and youth in at-risk environments. More information about Third Level can be obtained on their web site: www.thirdlevel.org.

Mickie has been with the agency since 1985 and has over 30 years of crisis intervention experience. She is a Licensed Master's Social Worker and a Licensed Professional Counselor.

Please feel free to bring guests. As always, the public is invited to our programs. Refreshments are available and socializing starts at 7:00 PM. The program begins at 7:30 PM. We'll see you there!

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.

Please visit us on
the web at
gtnewcomers.org

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PRESIDENTS' NOTE

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April 2009



Lori Brickman &
Bob Pelto

April is the 4th month of the year, originally it was the 2nd until January and February were added in 700 BC, and some say the name April is a derivative of the Latin *aperier*, to open, an allusion to the time of year when trees and flowers begin to open.

April 2009 is the month with Passover, Good Friday, Easter, Earth Day, Tax Day, Patriots Day and Arbor Day and this April the Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse will sign a purchase agreement for **Elmbrook Golf Course**. The down payment will come from the proceeds of our successful auction last November and membership dues will be raised slightly to cover the monthly mortgage.

Lastly, April also contains April Fools Day. Gotch ya!

Speaking of opening, the Newcomer Spring activities will be starting soon: Fishing, Hiking, Kayaking, Gardening, Biking and Golf are going to take the place of Skiing, Snowshoeing, Ice Fishing, and most indoor activities. Our snow bird friends will be returning to open their summer homes and renew friendships with those who stayed and braved the winter.

Joe Harris fulfilled his volunteer commitment to the adaptive skiing program and returned to lead the last scheduled snowshoe/cross-country ski event on March 7th. During his absence the activity was ably led by **Don Eastway** and unless there is a significant snow storm the next out-of-doors activity may feature flip flops and Hawaiian shirts. So maybe I'm rushing the season a little but this was a long cold winter. Remember the spring snow storm of last year when it was 80 degrees on one weekend and 9 inches of snow fell the next.... brrrr, shades of depression start to creep in with just the thought. Come on cherry blossoms!

The nominating committee has completed their search for new board members. The results will be announced at the **Ranch Rudolf** spring event on May 16. Be sure to attend this event and meet the incoming 2009-2010 leadership of the Newcomers Club.

The men's breakfast piloted by **George Kobernus** meets all year on the second Wednesday of the month at 9:00 AM in the **Omelette Shoppe** on Front Street just East of Garfield. The muster of early risers fill their stomachs while solving the problems of Traverse City, the Nation and the World. Just last March we solved the banking predicament and the oil crisis. Come join us!

Lori and Bob

Helping Hands Request

The Newcomers Club 'Helping Hands' Coordinator attempts to acknowledge happy and sad times in our members' lives. Please notify Patti Custance at 935-4805 or patticustance@yahoo.com if you know of any of these circumstances.

**Mark your Calendars for
Upcoming Events:**

The annual Ranch Rudolf Roundup will be held on **Saturday, May 16.**

The Summer Picnic is scheduled for **Sunday, June 28.**

NEW MEMBER CORNER

Diane Crandall - Auburn Hills, MI

Molly Stapish - Lansing, MI

Kenneth and Barbara Sterling - Ionia, MI

Plan now for the May program!

**RANCH RUDOLF "HOOTENANNY"
Saturday, May 16, 2009**

Pre-dinner activities begin around 3:30 PM (see schedule below)
Social time from 5:30 - 6:30 (rain or shine)
Buffet Dinner @ 6:30



Mosey over to Ranch Rudolf, partners, and join the fun in many late Saturday afternoon activities. Casual and western attire will reign at this rustic resort, located approximately 12 miles southeast of Traverse City.

For a few small gold nuggets you can go horseback riding, enjoy a hayride or go canoeing on the Boardman River. A word to the wise (seriously), if you decide to canoe, you and your sidekick should be experienced and wear life preservers. The water is cold and, at times, fast. **Please arrange any of these activities directly with Melody Hamill (co-owner) at Ranch Rudolf (947-9529) at least one week prior to the event.** Also, mention you are with the Newcomers Club. The cost and times are as follows:

- Horseback Riding (arrive @ 3:30 for paperwork, start time 4:00)...\$30
- Canoeing (arrive@ 3:30 for paperwork, start time 4:00).....\$15 pp, 2 per canoe
 - Hayride (arrive @4:00 for paperwork, start time 4:30).....\$12
(minimum of 10 cowgirls or buckaroos / maximum 20)

Additionally, members Lois Goldstein and John Heiam have offered to lead a paddling trip on the Brown Bridge Pond at the Ranch Rudolf event on May 16. This would take place prior to 5:30 PM social hour and dinner. They are experienced paddlers and are willing to share their expertise. The Brown Bridge Pond offers calm waters, wildlife and pristine scenery. You will need to provide your own canoe (or kayak), paddles and life jackets. In the event of poor weather, a hike along the North Country Trail could be an option. **Please coordinate with Lois and John at (H) 938-9655 or (Cell) 463-9655.**

Other activities (at no cost) include hiking, horseshoes, ping pong, bocce ball and volleyball. Bring a Mah Jongg game or cards and have some spirited competition on the patio or inside the amble barroom. Or, you can belly up to the cash bar and just enjoy the company of your many Newcomer cowpoke friends.

The hot buffet dinner (only \$20 pp) will offer several choices for the ladies and saddle-hardened wranglers: Baked Chicken, BBQ Pork Ribs, baked potato, pasta salad, baked beans, house salad, coffee, punch, ice tea and dessert.

Please send dinner reservations in early. They should be received no later than **Friday, May 8.** Guests are always welcome. Make your check payable to Newcomers Club for **\$20.00 per person** and mail to:

Patti Custance
2481 E. Potter Road
Traverse City, MI 49686

Questions: Call Bud Dockter (932-2394) or Briant Sikorski (922-6831). YEEEEHA!!!

ACTIVITY GROUPS

BIKING GROUP

Saturday, April 18, 11:00 AM TART Trail

We will start at the parking lot behind the Traverse Area District Library. From there we will travel east to Bunker Hill in Acme and back.

Anyone interested in joining should contact Don Eastway at cadillac2154@yahoo.com or call 231-884-1106.

Other upcoming outings will be East Shore Dr., Buff Dr. (both of these are on the peninsula) Betsie Valley Trail in Frankfort, Little Traverse Wheelway in Charlevoix and a trip on Mackinac Island.

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, April 7, 10:00 AM

New members are welcome to join us on the first Tuesday of the month in the lower level of Horizon Books. We meet at 10:00 AM and usually go out to lunch after.

This month's selection is *The Good Earth* by Pearl Buck. Gini LeClaire will lead the discussion.

For more information, contact 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. 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, April 26, 6:00 PM

Dinner out will be at *Hanna* on Cass St. in Traverse City on Sunday, April 26 at 6 p.m. We will be enjoying their Sunday special which is a chicken dinner for the very reasonable cost of \$7.99. Hope to see all you foodies there!

Please RSVP Marshall & Terrill Persky at terrillpersky@gmail.com or call us at 922-8153 or stop us at another activity and let us know.



The above picture was taken at our Dinner Out in February at Minerva's. We had a blast and a great turnout. A wonderful opportunity to meet some new members and have some great food.

EUCHRE

Couples Euchre Groups meet once a month in each other's homes. It is an evening of fun and friendship. The only prerequisite is knowing how to play Euchre and a willingness to laugh, snack and sip. Our five euchre groups are often looking for subs. If you are a couple and would like to begin a new group or sub in one of the other groups contact Karen Coquillard.

Contact Karen Coquillard, Couples Euchre coordinator, at karenmary32@hotmail.com.

FILM GROUP

Thursday, April 9

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, April 9. 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 is beginning the planning for their

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ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 4)

Spring charter fishing trip in May. The primary species is lake trout. Members are being contacted for their recommendations on where to fish and which days would be best. Inland trout fishing begins about April 30. Suggestions for other activities are always welcome

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

GARDENING

The Garden Group is in its second year. In the past we've visited a few members' gardens and have gone on local garden tours. We've also shared tips and Q&As through email. We are very flexible, continue to evolve, and invite your ideas and expertise.

To start off the 2009 season, we'll have a garden party at Bernadette Albers on Friday, May 15, at 2:00 PM – please mark your calendars. More details will be emailed to the Garden Group members as we get closer to the date.

If you are interested in being part of this group or need to update any of your contact info, contact Lynn Huffman at lhuffman@gammet.com.

MEN'S BOOK CLUB

Monday, April 27, 10:00 AM

The Men's Book Club will read *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic story about the Roaring Twenties, with Jim Brown moderating. A classic movie was made from this as well.

Andy Gerben will lead the discussion of *Straight Man* by Richard Russo on May 25 (Memorial Day)—a book about a campus family and the mid-life crisis of an English Department Chair in a West Central Pennsylvania University (excellent read and funny). We may elect to change the date for this meeting.

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). Bring book ideas with you. Lunches usually follow at Amical's. Contact Brad Spencer for questions, 946-3365 or spenseracs@charter.net. A list of all our selected books is available upon request.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesday, April 8, 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, April 8, 1:00 PM

Please join us for lunch at Trevino's Traverse Wine and Grille Restaurant located on M72 East in Williamsburg.

Contact Gloria Brown at 947-5318 or gloriowski@charter.net for reservations and directions **by Monday, April 6.**

POKER

Tuesday, April 7, 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 April meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 7th from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM. Jim Neibauer will be hosting. You can reach Jim at 231-267-9553. Jim's e-mail address is jeneibauer2@charter.net. **Please call or email Jim if you plan to attend.**

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

QUILTING/SEWING

Tuesday, April 14

The Quilting Group will be taking a field trip to Cousin's Quilt Shop in Bellaire and Hearts to Holly Quilt Shop in Charlevoix with lunch in between. So plan for a fun-filled day. We will leave TC at 9:30 AM, meeting at a designated place so that we can carpool.

If you are interested in this trip, please let Pauline Watt know if you plan to go (929-1107 or jwatt1107@charter.net), **before April 10**, so that we can organize this day.

SOLOS

We are a group for singles or those who wish to participate in activities without their partner.

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Deer Proof Plants

It is getting to that time of year when many minds start to think once again about gardening. One issue that seems to come up over and over again is how to deer proof your garden. I'm passing along some information from the February/March issue of *Organic Gardening* on dealing with this problem in terms of what to plant that will not be attractive to deer.

The article states that no plant is 100% deer proof but lists some of the following things that deer find unappealing on a menu.

Deer dislike foliage that is fuzzy, leathery, sharp-edged, spiny, prickly, silver, black or bronze color, strongly scented or poisonous.

Some poisonous plants are:

Hellebores which are filled with alkaloid toxins, ferns, daffodils, snowdrops and autumn crocus.

Bad Smelling plants (to deer):

Rosemary, lavender, catmint and salvias.

Acrid Sap Plants:

The leaves and stems of peonies contain an acrid sap that deer dislike. Spurges contain a latex sap as do bluestars and butterfly weed.

Fuzzy Leaves:

Lambs Ears, Mulleins (*Verbascum*), and *Artemisia*

Unappetizing Color:

Black Beauty snakeroot, Purple Knockout leaf sage, and Lime Rickey heuchera.

This is a tiny list of plants that deer tend to avoid but if you keep in mind the color, scent and foliage that deer dislike I'm sure you'll come up with lots more plants.

Keep in mind that deer prefer soft, bland tasting plants with high water content. Some favorites of deer are daylilies, hostas, roses and tulips.

Happy gardening.

Editor's note: A big "thank you" to Judy Pelto for providing this relevant information.

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 May 2009 newsletter is April 15.

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Sunday, April 19, 11:00 AM

We will attend the Empty Bowls Project today. It is the annual fundraiser for the Fresh Food Partnership. The cost of entry will allow you to take home a bowl of your choice and to sample some wonderful food. Meet promptly at 11:00 AM at the NMC Hagerty Center (517 E. Front St.). RSVP to Gini LeClaire (941-8440) or Judy Owen (922-9619) so we will know what size group to expect.

Sunday, April 26, 3:00 PM

Joan Hauer will host a Dominoes Tournament at her home today. Bring a salad or finger food to share. Call Joan (946-6435) to RSVP and get directions.

Mushroom Hunting

Judy Owen will lead a group expedition to search for these delicious morsels. Date is dependent on harvest. Let Judy know if you are interested in being included.

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE THEATER

Thursday, April 16, 2:30 PM

We're back to our usual date at the State, the 3rd Thursday of the month, 2:30-5:15 PM (April 16, May 21, June 18).

Please contact Jody Bennett for more info and to sign up, bennettjj@charter.net or 932-9249.

WALK IN THE WOODS

April 11, 11:00 AM

For those new to the Club or those who have not participated before, these are low impact strolls through the beautiful parks and natural areas with which the Grand Traverse area is so blessed. The distances usually are between one and a half to three miles, the pace is casual and the terrain suitable for most all of us. The activity has scheduled walks from April to November, weather, as always, permitting and walks are held on the second Saturday of each month. Most of us meet for lunch afterwards.

For April we will be walking along Boardman Lake from Hull Park to Logan's Landing. This is a paved pathway that affords great views of Boardman Lake and the great variety of waterfowl that depend on this one time lumber holding pond that has, through the efforts of many, become one of the jewels of the area. It works out well to walk south to Logan's, have lunch at Auntie Pasta's, and then walk back to Hull Park. Hull Park is located directly behind the Main Library on Woodmere, just south of Eighth Street.

Please let me know if you plan to attend. Marlowe Bonner, mbmarbon@aol.com, 932-0943.



Newcomers admire the view at High Banks Rollway during one of last fall's "Walk in the Woods".

Would you like to have some fun?

Learn to line dance.

Good exercise, easy steps, patient instructor. And, only \$4 for two hours of instruction!

Let your heart beat to the rhythm of the music.

Call Sis Leake at 929-7036 for more information.



Meagan Thomas, owner of Radish, a restaurant on South Union in Traverse City, presented a very entertaining and informative February program.



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

Bellisimo 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

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.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

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

Grace—A Salon of Inspiration

Union St. at 9th St.
(531 S. Union, TC)
941-1973

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

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, 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

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

Traverse City Record Eagle

Newspaper

946-2000

Traverse Magazine

148 E. Front St., TC
941-8174



The Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse
C/O Karen Spencer - Membership
8165 S. Bingham Ridge Dr.
Traverse City, MI 49684
kspencertc@charter.net

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.