



# Newcomers News

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(Antrim - Benzie - Grand Traverse - Kalkaska - Leelanau)

March  
2010

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**MARCH PROGRAM**  
Tuesday, March 23

**BOARD MEETING**

*March 8*

**BOOK CLUB**

*March 2*

**BRIDGE**

*Various, see p. 4*

**DINNER OUT**

*March 28*

**EUCHRE**

*Various, see p. 4*

**FILM GROUP**

*March 11*

**FISHING**

*TBA, see p. 5*

**MEN'S BOOK CLUB**

*March 22*

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

*March 10*

**OUT-TO-LUNCH BUNCH**

*March 10*

**POKER**

*March 2*

**QUILTING**

*March 9*

**SNOWSHOE/CROSS**

**COUNTRY SKIING**

*March 14*

**SOLOS**

*March 21*

*March 30*

**VOLUNTEER AT THE  
STATE THEATRE**

*March 18*

Join us for the March Program:

## The Traverse City Symphony

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

6:30 PM (socializing with refreshments)

7:00 PM (club meeting & program)

Traverse Area District Library  
610 Woodmere Avenue  
Traverse City

Edward Downing, Executive Director of the Traverse City Symphony Orchestra, will present an entertaining and informative program recapping the Symphony's history, its struggles, its achievements, and its current level of performance.

We will be among the first to find out what the Symphony's 2010-2011 season will include. In addition the Symphony has recently concluded an extensive Research and Strategy Development project. Ed will share information about this project, including the development of a new logo.

As anyone who has heard Ed speak can attest, he is a bold, lively and entertaining speaker! Be sure to reserve this date on your calendars.

Please feel free to bring guests. Refreshments will be served, and socializing will start at 6:30 PM (please note the new starting time). The Club will have a short business meeting starting at 7:00 PM. The program will start right after this meeting, at about 7:15 PM.

### 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](http://gtnewcomers.org)

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# PRESIDENTS' NOTE

## March 2010



Bob Pelto & Susanne Bonner

Many of you have heard us quietly or not so quietly asking members to think about volunteering for a position on next year's Newcomers

Board. This year we have had several members step forward and express an interest in serving on the Board. The positions that were available for next year and have been filled are: Co-Presidents, Co-Vice presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and Executive Assistant. Thank you to every member who stepped forward and volunteered. We are so pleased with the response and have never filled positions so quickly. I think this says a lot about our next year's Board.

The only position that is available is Webmaster. Computer knowledge is required to maintain the club's website. Please contact us if you are interested or have any questions.

On to other business: We would like to remind everyone about our Book Exchange. It is simple -- just bring any books or current magazines you would like to donate to the monthly meetings at the library. Everyone is welcome to take what looks interesting to them. You do not have to bring a book to take one. At the end of the evening, if your donated book is still there, please take it with you as we do not want to store books between meetings.

Our March program features Edward Downing, Executive Director of the Traverse City Symphony Orchestra, who will present us with an informative and entertaining program. In April we will be visited by Traverse City's own Doug Stanton, author of the best-selling book *Horse Soldiers*. And, in May we will have our program at Chateau Chantal on the Old Mission Peninsula. More details to follow at a later date. We are hoping the cherry blossoms will be blooming and some of our snowbird Newcomers will be back. In June we have our annual spring gathering at Ranch Rudolf. Between all of our monthly programs, we have our many different card games and groups, book clubs, film group, various groups that go out to eat, quilting, and our solo group that always have something planned. All of us that have not gone south are hoping for some nice, fresh snow so we can get out snowshoeing or cross-country skiing before the bulbs start popping up.

Co-Presidents,

Susanne & Bob



**Mark your calendars for upcoming events:**

**Tuesday, April 27:** Doug Stanton, local author of *Horse Soldiers: The Extraordinary Story of a Band of US Soldiers Who Rode to Victory in Afghanistan*, will be our presenter.

**Tuesday, May 11:** Wine-Tasting event at Chateau Chantal.

**NEW MEMBER CORNER**

**Sally and Jeremy Crawford**  
Boston MA

**Jean Olson**  
Seattle, WA

**Scott & Gayle Roelofs**  
Midland, MI

## Tales of A Newcomer Volunteer

By Nancy Johnson

I volunteered to work at the State Theatre this past fall shortly after becoming a member of Newcomers. I actually didn't know much about the volunteering or about the State Theatre either. I knew about the Film Festival, but we were busy hauling stuff up here and doing things at our old home in the Lansing area so we missed the Film Festival. So, I arrived on the designated Thursday afternoon not knowing much about the theater, put on a vest and name tag (I actually found one that said "Nancy") and headed upstairs for clean-up detail. I gathered trash, ran the sweeper up down half the aisles, cleaned the front entry and still had plenty of time to watch the movie with my gratis popcorn and pop.

The movie theater takes me back in time to the neighborhood theater where I grew up in West St. Paul, Minnesota. I remembered walking about a mile to the theater similar in appearance to the State Theatre on a Saturday morning and watching a movie with some friends. I am thrilled that kids can have that same experience now in Traverse City along with all the other special happenings at the theater that appeal to a varying customer base. The theater gives a sense of community to people in this area. Customers are also quite willing to share their love of the theater with those of us who volunteer there. One lady my husband and I met while working told of how much she enjoyed The Wizard of Oz at the State Theatre because the audience made the movie interactive with clapping, booing the wicked witch and cheering Dorothy, etc.

Anyway, I am happy to be part of a group dedicated to preserving the theater and showing movies, both new and old. Since I have enjoyed more experiences working there thus far, I have volunteered to take over the Newcomer shift on Thursday afternoons for the upcoming year.

**Editor's Note:** A big thank-you to Nancy, who answered my recent request for reports from Newcomers about the volunteer activities that they are involved with. I would love to hear from others. You are welcome to write a few paragraphs or a short note about your experiences. If you are serving a community program or agency, please include information on how others might become involved. Send your emails or notes to Miki Connell at mikiconnell@aol.com or 8221 Maple Leaf Drive, Traverse City, MI 49684. Thanks!

# ACTIVITY GROUPS

## **BOOK CLUB**

**Tuesday, March 2, 10:00 AM**

Our March selection is *The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, an epistolary novel set in wartime London and Guernsey Island. April's book is *Stealing Buddha's Dinner* by Bich Minh Nguyen .

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](mailto: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](mailto:richardrbodette@cs.com).

## **DINNER OUT**

**Sunday, March 28, 5:30 PM**

Spring is just around the corner so cheer up and come join us for fun, food and fluids! All newcomers are welcome to join us and feel free to bring a friend or two. We will be dining at the Boathouse Restaurant located on lovely Bowers Harbor at 14039 Peninsula Drive on Old Mission Peninsula. Cocktails at 5:30 PM, followed by dinner.

Proprietor Doug Kosch has put together a wonderful three course all-inclusive dinner for us at a fixed price of \$25 each. This \$25 price includes an appetizer, choice of a meat, fish or pasta entree, dessert, taxes and gratuity. Drinks are not included.

Please RSVP before March 23rd if you *are attending* to Michele Richard, 944-5844 or [marichard43@yahoo.com](mailto:marichard43@yahoo.com).



## **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 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](mailto:jpelto1@charter.net) or call 231-668-6490.

## **FILM GROUP**

**Thursday, March 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](mailto:jpelto1@charter.net) or 231-668-6490.

## **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](mailto:phalbers99@gmail.com), 922-7289 if

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# ACTIVITY GROUPS

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you are interested in participating in any of the group activities.

## **MEN'S BOOK CLUB**

**Monday, March 22, 10:00 AM**

The book selection for March is *Master and Commander* by Patrick O'Brian. This is the first in a series of books by the author on life in the British Navy at the end of the 1700s and the beginning of the 1800s. It is considered to be a great sea story and the basis for a public television series a few years ago. The presenter will be George Kobernus.

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, March 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, March 10, 1:00 PM**

We will have lunch at Pearl's New Orleans Kitchen at 617 Ames Street in Elk Rapids. Pearl's describes itself as a "Cajun/Creole Kitchen With a Heap of Southern Hospitality".

Contact **Sis Leake** at 929-7036 by **Monday, March 8**, for reservations. Car pool site has yet to be determined. You will be informed about the carpool site when you make your reservation.

## **POKER**

**Tuesday, March 2, 1:30 PM**

The poker group usually meets the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 March meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 2, from 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM. The host for the March meeting will be Steve Lockwood. **Please contact Steve by phone or e-mail** or the group coordinator if you plan to attend. Steve's phone number is 231-938-2293. Steve's email is steve.640@hotmail.com.

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

## **QUILTING**

**Tuesday, March 9, 1:00 PM**

The Newcomer Quilt group will be taking a field trip to Renee's Quilt Shop in Williamsburg. So plan for a fun afternoon among beautiful fabrics. We will leave TC at 12:30 PM, meeting at a designated place (yet to be determined) so that we can carpool.

**Please RSVP to Pauline** (jwatt1107@charter.net) **if you plan to attend.**

## **SNOWSHOE/CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING**

**Saturday March 14, 11:00 AM**

**Lone Pine Trail**

This trail is along the Boardman River. Take Garfield Avenue south to Birmley Road. Turn right at the stop light and go about a mile to the next stop light. Turn left onto Keystone Rd. and go for 1-1/2 miles. The trailhead parking lot is on the right.

This will be the last snowshoe outing for the year.

**If you are interested in joining this outing please contact Don Eastway at cadillac2154@yahoo.com or phone 213-884-1106.**

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# ACTIVITY GROUPS

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## **SOLOS**

### **Sunday, March 21, 3:00 PM**

On March 21 at 3:00 PM, Judy will be going to the Old Town Playhouse to see "Rent". If you would like to join her and go out for a bite after the play, call and get a ticket. Please let Judy know you will be there by calling her at 922-9619.

### **Tuesday, March 30, 1:00 PM**

On March 30 at 1:00 PM we hope to have lunch at Lobdell's. Reservations are required, so you must call early and let us know if you are interested in joining us. **The deadline for reservations will be Monday, March 1.** Call Judy at 922-9619. After lunch, if the weather cooperates, we will explore the warehouse district and see what it has to offer.

## **VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE THEATRE**

### **Thursday, March 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.



## Exciting News:

Mark your calendars for what could possibly be the BEST event this year!

On Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> we are having a Wine Tasting Event at Chateau Chantal ([www.chateauchantal.com](http://www.chateauchantal.com)) on the Old Mission Peninsula. The evening will include a presentation by the winery, and an opportunity to taste several wines accompanied by light appetizers.

*To keep the event affordable, at \$10 per person, a portion of the evening's cost is being subsidized with profits from the auction.*

What a great way to welcome everyone back and to celebrate the arrival of **SPRING**.

Watch for more details in future newsletters.



Newcomers Club is now on Facebook! We can be found at "Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse" and we would love to have you join us.

We're hoping that this is another way to attract new members who are "cruising" Facebook and looking for ways to meet people and make friends with our special members.



## Golfers, Think Spring

ALL golfers young and old, men and women, pros and beginners, mark your calendar and save the date. Newcomers Golf League will start on **Monday, May 4**. The plan is to play at the Crown on alternate Mondays and travel to other courses on the "other" Mondays. More details to come in the April Newsletter.

If you need more information now, call Ralph Brickman at 223-4584 or email at [brickmanbus@yahoo.com](mailto:brickmanbus@yahoo.com) .

See ya in May,  
**Ralph**

## Activity Group Leaders Needed

Leaders are needed for following Activity Groups for the 2010-11 calendar year:

- **Walk in the Woods:** this activity takes place on the second Saturday of the month in September, October, November, April, May, June and July.
- **Quilting:** this activity meets monthly from October to May. The group meets in member's homes unless field trips are planned.

If you are interested in helping out the club by leading one of these groups, please contact Pauline Watt at 929-1107 or email her at [jwatt1107@charter.net](mailto:jwatt1107@charter.net).

## Help Wanted: Newcomers Webmaster



**Start Date:** September 2010

### Job description:

- Use Microsoft FrontPage to maintain the club's website with current information.
- Monthly updates of the newsletter and activity group schedules.
- Maintain online calendar of club events.
- Communicate with Bluehost, our web hosting provider.
- Answer occasional questions from members regarding the website

**Qualifications:** Computer knowledge and a willingness to learn new things. Previous web experience not necessary. Training and much support provided.

Please contact Susanne Bonner (932-0943 or [susannebonner@aol.com](mailto:susannebonner@aol.com)) or Bob Peltó (668-6490 or [robertpelto@charter.net](mailto:robertpelto@charter.net)) if interested and willing to help.



# 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

## Bank of Northern Michigan

Debbie Highway/Mortgage  
130 South Union St., TC  
231-922-1422  
231-357-5577 (cell)

## 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.dgncpa.com

## Dennos Museum Center

1701 E. Front St., TC  
995-1055

## Edward Jones

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

## 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 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

## Northwest Michigan College

## Extended Educational Services &

## Life Academy (Classes for adults over 50)

231-995-1700

## 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



The Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse  
C/O Terrill Persky - Membership  
438 N. Elmwood  
Traverse City, MI 49684