



Newcomers News

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

May
2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

May Program

Ranch Rudolf May 16

BOARD MEETING

May 11

BIKING GROUP

May 30

BOOK CLUB

May 5

BRIDGE

Various, see p. 4

EUCHRE

Various, see p. 4

FILM GROUP

May 14

FISHING

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GOLF

Various, see p. 5

MEN'S BOOK CLUB

May 25

MEN'S BREAKFAST

May 13

POKER

May 5

QUILTING

May 12

SOLOS

May 10, 17, 21/22

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE THEATER

May 21

WALK IN THE WOODS

May 9

Please visit us on
the web at
gtnewcomers.org

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RANCH RUDOLF "HOOTENANNY" Saturday, May 16, 2009

Pre-dinner activities begin around 3:30 PM (see schedule below)

Social time from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM (rain or shine)

Buffet Dinner @ 6:30 PM

NEW: Line Dancing instruction & fun after dinner

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 that 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 ample 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, iced tea and dessert.

After-Dinner Line Dancing: Join instructor Diana Haselton for some fun-filled line dancing. Learn a few new steps or make up your own. Regardless, it will be an enjoyable way to finish the evening.

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!!!

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May 2009



Lori Brickman &
Bob Pelto

Well, hello fellow newcomers. This article is appearing in the May Newsletter but it is being written from the warmth of Florida in mid April. As it has been snowing in Michigan, I don't know quite what to say about the weather when this column is published. In Michigan almost every conversation begins with the weather. So we will just assume it's sunny and great and that we are enjoying the beautiful spring flowers.

While thinking about what to write, it came to me that we often know little about our fellow members. Sometimes the knowing helps to kick start a great conversation and who knows where that will lead. So we have a little quiz for you this month to get to know your fellow Newcomers a little better. The answers are found elsewhere in the newsletter. The questions or statements below refer to members of the Club. Although only one name is listed in the answers, there may actually be several right answers. NO, there is not a prize for the winner. The satisfaction of being correct is enough to make us happy. So here goes:

1. Name a Club member who is a pilot.
2. Name another pilot who flies for Wings of Mercy.
3. Who are the husband and wife team of Master Gardeners?
4. Who served on the Boardman River Dams Committee?
5. Name a volunteer with the Leelanau Conservancy.
6. Who has an amazing collection of Japanese art?
7. One of our members used to write movie reviews.
8. Who led the newcomer snowshoe outing with the largest attendance?
9. Which couple is responsible for rejuvenating the TC Paddle Club?
10. Which member is a professional musician?
11. Whose daughter is a TC school principal?
12. Name two state theater volunteers.
13. Who is the activity leader for movie night?
14. Our Boy Scout Leader is.....
15. Who advises third world nations' farmers?
16. Who teaches at NMC?
17. Who is an expert wood carver?
18. Who served in Kenya in the Peace Corps?
19. Who taught tennis for 30 years?
20. Who is a professional artist?
21. Who has a collection of over 15,000 books?
22. Who got a hole-in-one twice?

Hope you got a few right answers and were surprised with a few others. No matter. Now you know enough to say hi to someone you haven't talked to before. A good place to have that conversation would be at our Ranch Rudolf outing. It is one of the best attended events of the season. Join us and compare notes with your fellow guessers.

Bob and Lori

Mark your Calendars for Upcoming Events:

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

NEW MEMBER CORNER

Larry & Marilyn Norwood - Flushing, MI

John & Bonnie Forsyth - Ypsilanti, MI

Bird Hikes at Reffitt Nature Preserve

The Grand Traverse Audubon Club and Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy are offering several birding hikes in May and June at the Reffitt Nature Preserve. The Preserve has a 1.7 mile trail near the State Park and Tart Trail in Traverse City. Audubon birders will help identify some of the 70 birds catalogued by Abby Gartland at Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. The walk is flat with boardwalks through the marsh area. Bring binoculars, bug spray, and bird books.

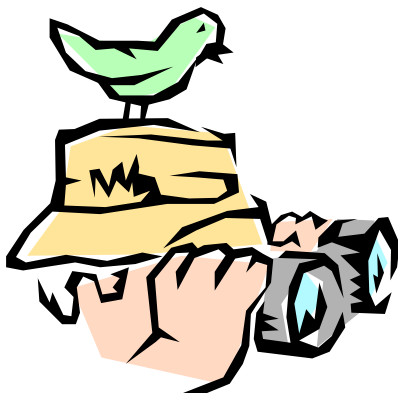
Park at 3 Mile Rd. and Parsons Rd. by the railroad track. No dogs or cell phones please. This will be a SLOW amble.

If you are interested in joining one of these outings, please call or email Carole Groves at 231-492-4567 or clgroves@yahoo.com with phone number and email address. Use Reffitt in the subject line.

Dates:

May 13 & 20, 6:30 PM (early May light until 8:30)

June 10, 17 & 27, 6:30 PM



ANOTHER BIG DAY ON THE BAY!



Another successful day of perch fishing on West Grand Traverse Bay. The youthful Newcomers Fishing Consortium members are (left to right): John Watt, Marshall Persky, Don Eastway, and Rick Bodette. Club Honcho is Pete Albers. The group is currently considering a fishing trek to the Canadian Wilderness.

Submitted by Brad Spencer

Please help recruit new members!

Please send news, articles, photos, letters, or ads to Miki Connell, the newsletter editor:

mikiconnel@aol.com or call her at 929-1049

The deadline for the June/July/August 2009 newsletter is May 15.

ACTIVITY GROUPS

BIKING GROUP

Saturday, May 30, 11:00 AM East Shore Drive

We will start at the parking lot of the Traverse City Central High School on Eastern Ave. We will ride on East Shore Dr. north to Center Rd. and back.

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

For anyone who is interested in a 22 mile or 35 mile ride, The Old Mission Bike Tour is coming up on Sunday, July 5 at 8:00 AM. Early bird registration fee until June 19 is \$25/person. After that date it will be \$30/person. There will be food and water stations along the tour. After the ride there will be a lunch at the college. Also you will get an Old Mission Bike Tour T-Shirt.

BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, May 5, 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 *Out Shooting Horses*. Sis Leake 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

There will be no dinner out for the month of May. Thanks for a great year sampling area restaurants! We will re-

sume this activity in the fall. See everyone at Ranch Rudolf.

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, May 14

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, May 14. 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 will be doing a charter fishing trip in May. Date and location to be determined soon. Lake trout season begins May 1 for the main lake and is currently open for the Traverse Bays. The regular season for most species begins April 25; see the new regulations for specifics. Don't forget to purchase your 2009 fishing license because the old ones expired March 1.

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

GARDENING

Friday, May 15, 2:00 PM—4:00 PM

The Garden Group's season kick-off will start with a Garden Party at the home of Bernadette Albers. An email has been sent to all garden group members with the details. If you are interested in being part of this fun, enlightening group, please contact Lynn Huffman at lhuffman@gammet.com or 517-449-4849.

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ACTIVITY GROUPS

(Continued from page 4)

GOLF

Our golf league begins on **Monday, May 11**, at the Leelanau Club at Bahle Farms. You may elect to play 9 or 18 holes. Our first tee time is 10:00 AM. We don't keep scores or use handicaps. You form your own group from those who come to play. You play as often as you like. If you miss one outing, come join us for the next outing. All playing levels are welcome.

If you plan on playing please call me at 231-223-4162 or email me at davidacharlton@hotmail.com the Friday before each Monday outing so that we reserve enough tee times for our group.

May 11	Leelanau Club	228-7400
May 18	Little Traverse Bay	526-6200
June 8	Briar	888-745-1220
June 22	Crystal Lake	882-4061
July 6	Champion Hills	882-9200
July 20	PineCroft	882-9100
August 3	Grandview	258-3244
August 17	Twin Birch	258-9691
August 31	Emerald Vale	800-890-3407
Sept. 14	Crystal Lake	882-4061
Sept. 28	Briar	888-745-1220

This schedule will be posted on our web site, gtnewcomers.org, and hard copies will be available at our outings.

MEN'S BOOK CLUB

Monday, May 25, 10:00 AM

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 (members will be queried).

Members are reminded to turn in their "Best Book" ideas for the exciting fall selection!

The club meets in the lower level of Horizon Books the fourth Monday of each month at 10 AM. **NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!** (whether you have read the book or not). Lunches usually follow at Amical's. Contact Brad Spencer for questions, 946-3365.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Wednesday, May 13, 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

This activity will resume in the fall.

POKER

Tuesday, May 5, 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 May meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5th. The time and location are not yet set. **Anyone that wants to attend should contact the group coordinator.**

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

QUILTING/SEWING

Tuesday, May 12, 1:00 PM

Our quilt group will meet on May 12 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Sis Leake's house at 871 Jay Rogers Court in Traverse City. Sis will show how to do paper piecing by making a sampler square. Anyone can bring an item to share (your favorite quilting tool/a special book/or a family quilt).

Please RSVP to Pauline Watt by May 11, 231-929-1107 or pwatt1107@charter.net. This will be the last meeting for the group until next fall.

SOLOS

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

Sunday, May 10

Today we will join each other for a Mother's Day Brunch, location to be determined.

Sunday, May 17

Today we will participate in the NMC Barbeque.

Thursday or Friday, May 21 or 22

We will attend "Leading Ladies" at the Old Town Playhouse

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Men's Book Club



Avid men readers have gathered together at Horizon Books the fourth Monday of each month to delve into their latest reading challenge. The range of books read have been wide including topics such as the assassination of President Lincoln, the evolution of the Federal Reserve Bank, military history, politics, travel and a variety of fiction. Currently the group is led by Brad Spencer. Pictured below from left to right: Roland Lickus, Lou Ricord, Joe Harris, John Auld, Jim Neibauer, Pete Albers, George Kobernus, Andy Gerben, Jim Brown, John Watt, and Jerry Hawkins. New members are welcome.

Submitted by Brad Spencer

Intro to Paddle Sports

When: Wednesday, June 17, 2009, 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM

Where: Grand Traverse Conservation District, Boardman River Nature Center
1450 Cass Road
Traverse City
www.NatureIsCalling.org

This program will feature lots of cool info for beginners about canoeing and kayaking in the Traverse City area. It's being planned by **John Heiam and Lois Goldstein**, members of the Newcomers Club of Grand Traverse and the Traverse Area Paddle Club (www.traverseareapaddleclub.org) to inform the entire community about paddling opportunities in our region. The program is a joint project with the Grand Traverse Conservation District, so we suggest a \$5 donation at the door. Free for kids!

We will discuss boat selection, gear to bring along, how to fit a life jacket, where to go, what to wear, how to load a boat on a car, how to organize a shuttle, etc.

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this evening.

Please call Judy (922-9619) or Gini (941-8440) for additional information or to sign up for any of these activities.

VOLUNTEER AT THE STATE THEATER

Thursday, May 21, 2:30 PM

We're back to our usual date at the State, the 3rd Thursday of the month, 2:30 PM—5:15 PM (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

Saturday, May 9, 11:00 AM

This walk will be held at the Reffitt Nature Preserve which should offer a great opportunity to see many species of birds as we stroll through a lovely forest that is "right in town". The trail is level and crosses over Mitchell Creek, one of the area's pristine trout fisheries. As usual lunch will be on the agenda following the walk for all those interested.

The parking area is off Three Mile Road just south of the Tart Trail and the railroad tracks. From US 31 Munson Ave turn south on Three Mile Road and look for parking on the left as you approach the tracks.

Please contact Marlowe Bonner if you plan to attend. mbmarbon@aol.com or 932-0943.



The Tall Ship Manitou

Sail the Manitou on Saturday, June 13. **Please contact Paula Hartmann before May 18th to reserve your spots.** The price will be \$35 per person. Lunch is not provided, but you can bring your own if desired.

There is only room for 62 adults so let me know early if you plan on coming out for a nice sail, picnic lunch and fun. We leave the dock at noon and sail until around 2:00 PM. Call 922-1625 or e-mail me at phartmann1625@charter.net.

Answers to the Presidents' quiz:

1. Dave Jankowski
2. Albert Sickinger
3. Keith and Judy McCormick
4. Pete Albers
5. Mark Kupferer
6. Kathy Bodette
7. Joe Coffman
8. Don Eastway
9. Lois Goldstein/John Heiam
10. Carol and Lee Hosler
11. Sharlene and Warren Kruger
12. Judy Pelto
13. Tom Stoeber
14. Jim Neibauer
15. Jane Pearsall
16. Chris Scurto
17. Sandy Seppala
18. Sis Leake
19. Caroline Hirth
20. Brad Spencer
21. Bud Dockter

Would You Like To Know More?

Steve Largent, Land Management Director of the Grand Traverse Conservation District, updated our club members on the status of the Boardman Dams at the March meeting. He also did a great job of giving us some history of the Boardman River. If you would like to know more about the Grand Traverse Conservation District and its many contributions to our community go online at www.NatureIsCalling.org.

Patronize our sponsors

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Joseph M. Stayman, D.D.S.
10850 E. Traverse Hwy, TC
946-9644

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PetSmart), TC 922-9844

BATA- Public Transportation

3233 Cass Rd., TC 941-2324

Benjamin Franklin —The

Punctual Plumber

929-9999

Bob's Furnace Services

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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

Edward Jones

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

Ecowater Systems of TC

1-800-599-0311 or
ecowater.com

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www.mygc.com/CDcandles

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941-1973

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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

The Mom's Club of Grand

Traverse Area

www.TheMomsClub.net

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.