

***Alumni Group of Newcomers (AGN)***  
***Opportunities for Active People***



***New Bern, NC***

***September 2014***

**President's Message**

Welcome to the new season of the AGN. As many may know, my name is Jim Wittmeyer and I am the newly elected president of the AGN.

First, I would like to congratulate Steve and Phyllis Epperson for the superb job they did during their presidency. My goal is to fill their shoes as well as they did. Thanks again, Steve and Phyllis.

Next I would like to introduce the Officers and Executive Board Members for this coming year: Diane Saraceno – VP for Programs, Betty Todd – VP for Activities, Sharon Champney – Secretary, Pete Peterson - Treasurer, Executive Board: Sandie Swigart, Advisor and Membership, Bill Blakefield – Newspaper, Chuck Saraceno – Data Base and Directory, Social Committee – Sandie Swigart, Betty Todd, Mickie Wittmeyer and Jean Anthony.

Additionally, the executive board has established a new policy for the Alumni, and is set as such: It is important that we protect and respect the member's privacy. The membership directory is strictly for the personal use of our members and is not for any commercial use.

Finally, I believe the AGN is a social organization dedicated to reminiscing with old friends, making new acquaintances, partaking of usual activities and trying different ventures.

I will always be open to any suggestions to improve the Alumni.

Thanks, Jim Wittmeyer

**New Bern Newcomers Club  
Officers and Directors  
For 2012-2013**

President :	Jim Wittmeyer
Vice President for Programs:	Diane Saraceno
Vice President for Activities:	Betty Todd
Secretary:	Susan Champney
Treasurer:	Pete Peterson

**Executive Board Member  
For 2014-2015**

Membership/Advisor:	Sandie Swigart
Newsetter:	Bill Blakefield
Data Base/Directory:	Chuck Saraceno
Social Committee	Sandie Swigart, Betty Todd, Jeanne Anthony and Mickie Wittmeyer

# ~ Calendar of Events ~

**Please check the appropriate activity description on the following pages for details about these events:**

- Aug 30      Bike Trip from Lawson Creek Park
- Sep 1        Scrabble, 12:30 pm, Books a Million
- Sep 3        Singles Mingles, 10 am, Kitchen on Trent
- Sep 4        Tennis, 10 am
- Sep 7        Wine Social, 4 pm, Doug and Sharyn Foster
- Sep 11      Tennis, 10 am
- Sep 13      Outdoor Adventure, Hammocks Beach State Park , 10:30 am
- Sep 15      General AGN Meeting, Christ Ministry Church, 5:30 pm
- Sep 15      Scrabble, 6:30 pm
- Sep 18      Golf, 8:45 am, Cyprus Landing
- Sep 18      Tennis, 10 am
- Sep 24      Book Club
- Sep 24      Dining Out, 6 pm, Bistro By-the-Sea
- Sep 25      Singles Mingles, 9:00 am, Outing to Bath
- Sep 25      Tennis, 10 am
- Sep 27      Dinner: Where Friends Meet, 6 pm
- Sep 30      Singles Mingles, 1 pm, Carolina Grill
- Oct. 7      Wine Social, 6 pm, Acqua Restaurant in Beaufort
- Dec 4      Newcomers/Alumni Holiday Party, 6:00 - 11:00 pm

**WELCOME BACK**  
**GENERAL MEETING**

On Monday, September 15, 2014  
At the Christ Church Ministry Center,  
311 Middle Street.

Meeting 5:30 P.M. with dinner at 6:00 P.M.

Catered by Cow Café

Variety of sandwiches and wraps, 3 home-made sides, sweet and unsweetened iced tea, regular and diet soda and a variety of different flavored ice cream

Cost is \$5.00 per person

Checks must be received by September 9<sup>th</sup>  
(there will be no refunds)

Make your checks payable to AGN and mail  
them to Mickie Wittmeyer

225 Bandon Drive, New Bern, NC 28562

252-288-5652

## **Where Friends Meet**

**Let's kick off the new season with Italian Night!!**

**Bon Appetito!**



**When:** Saturday September 27, 2014 at 6pm

**Where:** The home of Gary and Betty Todd 7 Pier  
Pointe in Riverbend

**Bring an Italian dish to share and your choice of  
beverage.**

**Last names beginning with A-F bring an appetizer**

**Last names beginning with G-L bring a main dish**

**Last names beginning with M-R bring a salad or  
vegetable**

**Last names beginning with S-Z bring a dessert**

**RSVP to Betty at 252-288-5502 Limit 28 so call early!**

# Activity Groups

The Newcomers Alumni Club offers a variety of activity groups designed not only to provide you with new friends and fun, but also opportunities to learn, lead and most importantly, laugh! You may participate in as many activities as you desire. We also offer special activities throughout the year.

If you have a suggestion for a new activity, and you are willing to lead the group, please contact one of our Activity Directors:

Betty Todd:           252-288-5502  
[Theoddfamily10@gmail.com](mailto:Theoddfamily10@gmail.com)

**How do you sign up?** To join a group, just come to the next Alumni Newcomers meeting on September 15 and sign up with one of the activity leaders, or contact an activity leader or co-chair directly.

Following is a description of the activity groups currently available including any scheduled events/activities.

# Biking

## **AGN/Newcomers Bicycling Group**

**Purpose:** Our goal is to enjoy the benefits of riding while making new friends. Join us for exercise and fresh air. All levels are welcome! We pace to the slowest rider – no one is left behind. The normal length will be between 10 to 20 miles in length.

### **Requested Gear:**

A working bicycle (brakes, gears) with adequate safety items - lights, reflectors etc.

A Helmet is mandatory.

Carry adequate water (minimum – 1 pt. / 500 mL).

Carry a spare bicycle tube and possibly an air pump for flat repairs.

Casual clothing (shorts) and top with bright colors (or Vest).

Sunglasses or prescription for bugs.

### **Meeting Place:**

A group E-Mail will be sent out mid-week for weekend rides with various starting points with directions. Some mid-week rides of various lengths will also be scheduled.

We are planning a bike ride this Saturday morning, August 30. Current plan is to leave from Lawson Creek Park at 8:30am. The idea is to start early enough to beat the worst of the heat. We will ride up Country Club Road towards the New Bern Country Club. The route will diverge to the left and right to explore some “nice” neighborhoods along the way. The ride should be about eight miles.

Lawson Creek Park is on the internet with maps and directions. It is located just off Country Club Road. If you are coming from New Bern, it is on the left just before you cross over Route 70. If you are coming from the direction of Trent Woods, it is on your right just after you cross over Route 70.

Once you enter Lawson Creek Park, drive all the way to the end. There is a boat ramp, drive to your left about 100 yards and park. There is a little parking lot there. My old green Chevy Venture will be parked there. Jeaneen and I will be there, although she will not be biking.

This week is a good time to have your bike checked out at Flythes or the New Bern bike shop. Many time they will do a quick brake and gear check, especially if they are not busy.

**Dave Monk**

[davidhmonk@gmail.com](mailto:davidhmonk@gmail.com)

252-514-4546 (Cell: 240-271-0428)

**Dave Gerde**

[dgerde@netzero.net](mailto:dgerde@netzero.net)

252-288-4371 (Cell: 631-759-6412)





### **Newcomers/AGN Boaters Group**

[Gary Todd](#) (Alumni) 252-288-5502 home  
603-380-5438 mobile

You must be a member of the Boaters Group to participate in Group activities, and you must be a member of the Newcomers Club or AGN to be a member of the Boaters Group.

If you are interested in joining the Boaters Group, or would like more information, please contact the Alumni Group activity leader [Gary Todd](#) at 252-288-5502.

# Book Group

The Book Group meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month in members' homes. We welcome new members. After our discussion we share some social time and refreshments.

The next meeting will be September 24, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Joanne Behrer, 3502 Wedgewood Dr. in Trent Woods. We will be discussing "Sandcastle Girls" by Chris Bohjalian.

Please phone Joanne at 636- 2480 or email her at [jovireo@suddenlink.net](mailto:jovireo@suddenlink.net) if you plan to attend.

On October 22, 2014 we will discuss "Life after Life" by Kate Atkinson. The meeting will be held at the home of Mary Hudson, 503 Neuse Harbour Blvd. in Neuse Harbour.

Please phone Mary at 633-4630 or email her at [maryjoe44@embarqmail.com](mailto:maryjoe44@embarqmail.com) if you plan to attend.

**Please join us. Everyone is welcome.**

Contacts: Peggy Kuehrmann [pdokrb@suddenlink.net](mailto:pdokrb@suddenlink.net) 637-7529  
Nancy Duane [nhncntd@always-online.com](mailto:nhncntd@always-online.com) 636-5638

# Dining In

Sharing a meal together is one of the best ways to get to know folks. The dining-in group is a great opportunity to meet different newcomers each month. While visiting in homes during the winter and spring months, 8 newcomers - singles or couples- share experiences and enjoy a delicious meal to which we all contribute a dish. Once everyone who wants to participate signs up we will organize the list so that the groups rotate and are new each month.

Sign-up begins now and runs through November. See us at the monthly meeting or via email. Dinners are scheduled for the months of January, February, March, and April. We even plan a special kick-off dinner in the Fall to get the ball rolling and we will have a separate sign-up for that at the September and October meeting.

You are host only once during the year - you decide the main dish and the others bring wine, an appetizer, salad and a dessert! And what a great way to share your favorite recipes and try new dishes!!

Please contact us for more information or inquire at the monthly meeting on September 15.

Kay or Dennis Melvin: Home: 252-288-6101  
Email: [kdmelvin@gmail.com](mailto:kdmelvin@gmail.com)

**\*\* Announcement \*\***

**The groups are being organized and we still need folks to sign up for our alternate list as fill-ins. This is a great way to participate without a four month commitment!**

# Dining Out

Dining Out is an opportunity to enjoy learning about the restaurants in New Bern and the surrounding areas. It's a chance to taste the chef's choice and enjoy the company of other newcomers. Each month a new place is planned for your dining pleasure for either lunch or dinner.

**September 24 (Wednesday), 6 pm**

## **Dinner at Bistro-by-the-Sea Restaurant (Morehead City)**

The Bistro-by-the-Sea Restaurant is owned and operated by the husband and wife team of Chef Tim Coyne, and General Manager Libby Eaton. Both Tim and Libby take pride in the fact that Tim is "cooking on the line" and Libby is greeting their guests every night they are open. To ensure a creative, consistent product, the restaurant is open only five days a week. Due to his passion & love of "old school-slow cooking," Chef Tim & his professional kitchen staff strive to prepare fresh, local dishes without the use of "fast-forced" cooking methods. Please join us on September 24, 6 pm, at 4031 Arendell Street, Morehead City. Note: There will be a 20% gratuity added to each check.

Please RSVP to Bill Blakefield at [wblakefield@gmail.com](mailto:wblakefield@gmail.com) by September 17 if you can attend.

Contact: Bill Blakefield

252-288-4133

[wblakefield@gmail.com](mailto:wblakefield@gmail.com)

# Golf

Newcomers Golf is based on the premise that the game should be fun. Making friends is paramount; proficiency is immaterial. We welcome all skill levels. Rules are what each player wants them to be. Some players adhere to the stricter rules of the USGA, while others follow the lax GW rules -- count every stroke that you like. If you don't like it, don't count it; or finally, don't count anything and pick up your ball any time you wish!

We schedule a golf outing once a month, normally on a Wednesday or Thursday, and play 12 months of the year. We travel to courses in the New Bern area and try to keep within a one-hour drive. We also arrange carpooling for the out-of-New Bern trips. If this sounds like something you would enjoy, come join us. You will have a good time!

**The next golf outing will be September 18, Thursday, at Cypress Landing in Chocowinity. We have 4 tee times starting at 10:30 am with a cost of \$35.00. We will meet in the front parking lot of the BELK department store at 8:45 am and will leave at 9:00 am PROMPTLY. This will give us time to get carts etc and sign in and warm up.**

**Let me know if you plan to attend. Bob Freeland, 252-288-6410,  
wvubob201@hotmail.com**

**Directions:**

FROM BELK, TURN LEFT ON ML KING BLVD

TAKE ROUTE 70 TOWARD KINSTON.

TAKE THE EXIT ONTO ROUTE 43

TAKE 43 TO ROUTE 17 AND TAKE A LEFT ON 17

FOLLOW ROUTE 17 TO OLD BLOUNT CREEK RD

CONTINUE ON OLD BLOUNT CREEK RD TO CLUB HOUSE RD

FOLLOW TO THE COURSE. CYPRESS LANDING GOLF COURSE ADDRESS IS 600 CLUBHOUSE RD CHOCOWINITY

# Outdoor Adventure

Throughout the September – May season, we try to choose outdoor activities that are appealing to everyone. The adventures are not competitive in nature. The adventures have included: kayaking/canoeing, hiking, kite flying, bicycle riding, and boat rides. We either bring our lunch or stop by a nearby restaurant.

We don't have participants sign up unless it is an activity that must be more stringent in head count. Our slogan is "No sign-up, just show up at the event," and rainout is constituted by already raining or bad outlook during the time of the adventure.

*Saturday, September 13, 10:30 a.m. ferry\**  
*Bring your lunch, beverages, chairs, etc.*

## Hammocks Beach State

Venture to Bear Island to one of the most unspoiled beaches on the Atlantic coast. Accessible only by passenger ferry or private boat. The 2.5-mile passenger ferry ride takes about 15 minutes and offers a glimpse of interesting wetland inhabitants, including herons and egrets. After traveling through the Intracoastal Waterway, the ferry moves through the shallow waters of Cow Channel, a channel through which cows were once herded to the island for grazing. The ferry then docks at the pier on Bear Island where a half-mile trail travels through the dune system, across the island, to the beach. This 15-minute walk is like a trip through the desert. The sand is often hot; wear protective shoes.

**\*Ferry Schedule:** We plan to take the 10:30 ferry, but you may choose a different time if you prefer. Be at the visitor's center to purchase your tickets at least a half hour before departure time. (28 person ferry capacity at one time) Depart island whenever you choose. Carts and wagons are prohibited on passenger ferries due to space and weight limitations. Passenger conveyance devices, such as strollers and wheelchairs, are allowed.

Departs mainland

at: 9:30am 10:30am 11:30am 12:30pm 1:30pm 2:30pm 3:30pm 4:30pm

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Departs island at: 10:00am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm

Adult roundtrip --- \$5 Senior Citizen (62 or older) roundtrip --- \$3

**Directions:** Follow Highway 24 west into Swansboro. Turn left onto Old Hammocks Road. Turn left onto Hammocks Beach Road. About 500 feet before the end of the road, turn right into the park entrance. 1572 Hammocks Beach Road, Swansboro, NC 28584

**Contact**          Steve Spaziante: 252-571-3880  
                         June Dowd: 252-571-5210  
   [junedowd515@gmail.com](mailto:junedowd515@gmail.com)

# Scrabble

The Scrabble Group meets the **first Monday** of the month from 12:30 pm at Books-A-Million Coffee Shop in the New Bern Wal-Mart Shopping Center at 3005 M.L. King Blvd.; and the **third Monday** of the month from 6:30 pm at Schlotzsky's 3335 M L King Blvd (several individuals come at 6:00 to eat dinner)

## **Playing Rules:**

1. Two players per board (unless there is an odd number)
2. Dictionary can be used a maximum of two times per move
3. Use of "The Cheat Sheet" allowed
4. Turns limited to six minutes each

**Please Bring:** If you have the following items, please bring them to each meeting: A Scrabble Board, an Official Scrabble Dictionary and a 3-minute timer.

Contact: Cammie Armstrong [cammiearmstrong@gmail.com](mailto:cammiearmstrong@gmail.com), 757 650 5469

# Singles Mingles

The Singles Mingles Group meets twice a month (or so) at various locations to socialize.

Upcoming Activities:

- September 3, 10:00 am Coffee at Kitchen on Trent – 2500 Trent Rd
- September 25, 9:00 am Carpool Outing to Bath – Historical House Tour, Bag Lunch
- September 30, 1:00 pm Lunch at Carolina Grill – 998 Hwy 70 East

If you are interested in hosting a get-together at your home, please contact:

Linda Guthrie                      724-622-1568  
[lindaguthrie50@gmail.com](mailto:lindaguthrie50@gmail.com)

Sharon Champney                252-633-7824  
[slfchamp@yahoo.com](mailto:slfchamp@yahoo.com)

Important: Dates & Places are subject to change. Watch your email, as places may change, at the last minute, due to unforeseen reasons.

# Tennis

The Tennis Group meets weekly for people who enjoy playing tennis. You don't have to be an expert, but some knowledge of the game is helpful. We meet at the New Bern Recreation Center located at 1225 Pinetree Drive, New Bern.

We will meet every Thursday at 10:00 am

**Contact**      Mary Pickhaver:      252-672-8550  
[mlpick2@gmail.com](mailto:mlpick2@gmail.com)



# Wine Socials

Welcome back! Please sign up and send your \$4. pp wine tasting dues and to treasurer, Paul Merriman, 803 Crane Drive, New Bern NC 28560. Please make checks payable to AGN Wine Club.

Our "Meet and Greet" will take place on Sunday, September 7th at 4 pm at the home of Doug and Sharyn Foster, 123 Tupelo Trail, vicinity of Gary's Nursery, 635-1426. Bring a heavy hors *d'oeuvres* and a bottle of wine per couple or for singles either wine or an *hors d'oeuvres*. Please, do not reserve by calling the Fosters. Simply e mail Dee Dricks at [lendee@always-online.com](mailto:lendee@always-online.com) or call 633-9671 by September 3 to let her know you are coming so we can prepare for the party.

On Tuesday, October 7 at 6 pm, there will be a tasting of 4 wines at the Acqua Restaurant in Beaufort. It is just behind Clawson's. There will be 4 - 2 oz. pours. Everyone is invited to stay and have dinner/ tapas there afterwards. The tasting is \$11 per person and dinner cost is on your own. We've given them a guesstimate of 12 couples. Hope you can make it. It will be our first time there for an event. Please send your money to our treasurer by October 1. Please see the Membership Form for the Wine Tasting Group below.

MEMBERSHIP FORM ---WINE TASTING GROUP FOR 2014-2015

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Area: Downtown\_\_\_ Taberna\_\_\_ Fairfield Harbour\_\_\_ Greenbriar\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_

Are you interested in: Committee Member\_\_\_ Hosting\_\_\_

Suggestions/ideas for monthly events:

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Comments welcomed. ANNUAL FEE TO JOIN WINE GROUP – \$4.00/PERSON

Make check to AGN Wine Club.

Return form to: Paul Merriman

803 Crane Drive

New Bern, NC 28560 Phone: 633-5409

**DUES FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2014, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015**

**ALUMNI GROUP OF NEWCOMERS  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/WAIVER AGREEMENT**

Please complete the application, sign the waiver, and enclose your check made payable to: AGN, and **mail to:**

**Chuck Saraceno 6000 Brig Court, New Bern, NC 28560**

Type of Membership:

Family Unit \$25.00  Single \$15.00  Single whose partner does not participate in any club activity \$15.00

Yes, I would like a printed Directory \$5.00 (In addition to my membership)

Membership:  NEW  RENEWAL

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NO: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please print (Your Newsletter will be emailed.)

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**WAIVER AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

In consideration of being allowed to participate in the functions and activities of the Alumni Group of Newcomers:

I/We \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby agree to hold the Alumni Group of Newcomers free from all liability and claims for damages and injuries of any kind whatsoever, from any cause or causes whatsoever, which I/We incur or sustain while participating in any of the functions and activities, including Day Trips and Outdoor Adventure, sponsored by the Alumni Group of Newcomers, and I/We further agree to hold harmless the Alumni Group of Newcomers from liability, loss, cost (including without limit, attorney fees) and other obligations arising out of any such damages and injuries, however they are incurred or sustained.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

We appreciate and thank you for your prompt payment of dues.

***~ NOTICE ~***

**CLUB TAKING AND USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF MEMBERS**

This is to notify you as a member of Newcomers Club of New Bern or the Alumni Group that, in the course of Newcomer and Alumni Club activities, photographs of members may be taken and used by Newcomers Club of New Bern or the Alumni Group, at their discretion without compensation to or approval by such members, for club-related purposes including but not limited to club promotion, newsletter and other website content and contests.

