

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



**New Bern, NC**

**September 2015**

### **President's Message**

As I posted my last message I was bemoaning the dismal wintry conditions we had suffered, and now I am bellyaching the sizzling summer we have endured. However, when I really think about it, there is no where I would rather be than in New Bern.

As we approach September, we are preparing for our first general meeting (look for more information on the flyer located in the newsletter). I believe we will bond together with the new batch of Alumni that plan to join us.

At this September meeting, we will have activity leaders or their representatives on hand to introduce our new activities. Additionally we will reacquaint those present programs we have already established.

Finally, we have scheduled two local celebrities for future meetings. I am certain it will be a good year.

Thanks,

Jim Wittmeyer ([golfwitt@gmail.com](mailto:golfwitt@gmail.com))

# ~ Calendar of Events ~

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

- Sep 7 Scrabble, 12:30 pm, Books-a-Million
- Sep 10 Singles Mingles, 10 am, Breakfast@Baker's Kitchen
- Sep 10 Tennis, 8:30 am
- Sep 13 Wine Tasting, 4-6 pm, Meet and Greet
- Sep 21 Scrabble, 6:00 pm, Schlotzsky's Deli
- Sep 21 Alumni General Meeting, 7pm
- Sep 22 Singles Mingles, 1 pm, Lunch@Annabelles
- Sep 23 "Old" Book Club, 1 pm, "Storied Life of A.J. Fikry"
- Sep 23 Dining Out: 5:30 pm, Red Fish Grill, Morehead City
- Sep 24 Tennis, 8:30 am
- Sep 24 "New" Book Club, 1 pm, "The Escape"
- Oct 17 Wine Tasting: 7pm, Oktoberfest
- Oct 24 Outdoor Adventure, 10 am, Carolina Kite Fest
- Nov 4-6 Trip to Charlotte

## **Newcomer-Alumni Fall Meeting**



**There will be COOKIES and other goodies!  
Come meet the new graduates and learn about  
AGN activities**

**September 21, 2015**

**7pm**

**Christ Church Ministry Center, 311 Middle Street, New Bern**

- Open to all of AGN and their guests

*Trip to Charlotte, NC*  
*Wednesday through Friday*  
*November 4-6, 2015*

*Deadline to cancel the Culinary Tour is September 30, but additional reservations will be accepted for all events until October 20, 2015*

\*\*\*\*\*

Wednesday, November 4

Winery Tour \$12/person, noon  
Stony Mountains Winery

\*

Wine Dinner \$75/person, all inclusive, 6:00 pm  
5 course dinner - each course paired with a wine

\*\*\*\*\*

Thursday, November 5

Private Culinary Tour \$70/person, all inclusive, 2:00 pm

On this Charlotte walking food tour, we will sample and sip our way through some of Uptown Charlotte's best representations of the local South.  
3 hour tour includes food and beverage, so dinner may not be necessary afterward.

\*

Crowne Plaza Charlotte Executive Park Hotel  
5700 Westpark Drive /

Call [1-866-380-0612](tel:1-866-380-0612) and ask for the Crowne Plaza Preferred Rate

Deadline for special hotel rate (\$139.00 plus tax): October 5, 2015

Contact June Dowd, [junedowd515@gmail.com](mailto:junedowd515@gmail.com), for more information

# 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.

**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)**

# Boaters

## 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.

There are no activities scheduled for September.

# Book Group

- The “Old Original Book Group” meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month in members’ homes. Please take note of the new book group which has been started recently. The next meeting of the "Old Original" Book Group will be held on September 23 at 1:00 PM at the home of Dawn Daugherty. We will be discussing **The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry** by Gabrielle Zevin. Please contact Dawn at 288-5891 or [collamer1@gmail.com](mailto:collamer1@gmail.com) if you plan on attending.
- Alumni has formed a “new” book club which meets 1-3 pm on the 4th Thursday of each month. Our book for September 23 is “The Escape” by Baldacci. We’ll meet to discuss it at the home of Sally Rowe. You're welcome to join us and for more information, contact Sally Rowe at [sdrowe106@yahoo.com](mailto:sdrowe106@yahoo.com) (252-514-2822) or Eileen Rowe at [eileenwroe@gmail.com](mailto:eileenwroe@gmail.com) (252-361-2437) for more information.

# 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.

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!!

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

**The Dining In program is under development for Alumni.  
We will announce future availability in this Newsletter.**

# 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 alumni. Each month a new place is planned for your dining pleasure for either lunch or dinner (or breakfast).

**September 23 (Wednesday), 5:30 pm**

## **Dinner at the Red Fish Grill, Morehead City**

The focus is on seafood at the Red Fish grill, with crab cakes, mahi mahi, flounder, shrimp and many other dishes. Each entree is served with sides such as wild rice and grilled asparagus. The deserts are excellent. The restaurant also has an extensive wine and beer selections. The service is first rate with a friendly and helpful wait staff. Please join us for what promises to be a first rate dining experience. The Red Fish Grill is located at 711 Evans Street in Morehead City.

**Important Note:** This group is limited to 20. Please **RSVP** to Bill Blakefield at [wblakefield@gmail.com](mailto:wblakefield@gmail.com) by September 18 if you can attend.

# Outdoor Adventure

## Carolina Kite Fest at Atlantic Beach

Saturday, October 24, 2015

Bring a kite and a camera and enjoy the day.

We will be attending around 10:00 and plan to have lunch at Blue Claw Restaurant on the beach around noon. If you are interested in being included in the group lunch, please inform June, so you may be included in the reservation.

Most of the action takes place during the hours of 10 AM and 4 PM, with the night fly usually taking place at dusk on Saturday. Admission is free - just the wind, sand, and colorful kites.

# 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

- *September 7 Scrabble, 12:30, Books a Million*
- *September 21 Scrabble, 6:00 pm, Schlotzsky's Deli*

# Singles Mingles

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

- September 10 - Thurs. 10:00 am. Breakfast @ Baker's Kitchen - - 227 Middle Street
- September 22- Tues. 1:00 PM Lunch @ Annabelle's, 3100 Dr. M.L. King Blvd

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.

- *Sep 10 Tennis*
- *Sep 24 Tennis*

We will meet every other Thursday at 8:30 am  
(For the month of September)

For information contact Carmine Buscemi  
[cpbuscemi@gmail.com](mailto:cpbuscemi@gmail.com)

# Wine Group

WINE TASTING is now open to all of AGN with no membership fee

## Meet and Greet at the home of

Dee and Len Dricks  
6005 Cassowary Lane  
New Bern (Fairfield Harbour)

September 13, 4-6:00 pm

## Bring a bottle of wine and a heavy hors d'oeuvre

Send \$2/per person by September 7 to

Paul Merriman, 803 Crane Drive, New Bern 28560 to reserve (limited seating)

(Do not contact host as your check is your reservation.)

If you'd like to host an event, please contact Dee Dricks.

Chairpersons:

Dee Dricks ([dricksdee@gmail.com](mailto:dricksdee@gmail.com)) June Dowd ([junedowd515@gmail.com](mailto:junedowd515@gmail.com))  
Paul Merriman ([merrcheryl@suddenlink.net](mailto:merrcheryl@suddenlink.net))

WINE TASTING is now open to all of AGN with no membership fee

**German Wine Tasting  
celebrating Oktoberfest**

featuring 5 foods paired with 5 wines

at the home of

**Bill and Kate Blakefield**  
3706 Darby Road - Trent Woods

**Saturday, October 17, 2015 at 7:00 pm**

Send \$15/per person by October 10 to  
Paul Merriman, 803 Crane Drive, New Bern 28560 to reserve (limited seating)  
(Do not contact host as your check is your reservation.)

If you'd like to host an event, please contact Dee Dricks.

Chairpersons:

Dee Dricks ([dricksdee@gmail.com](mailto:dricksdee@gmail.com))      June Dowd ([junedowd515@gmail.com](mailto:junedowd515@gmail.com))  
Paul Merriman ([merrcheryl@suddenlink.net](mailto:merrcheryl@suddenlink.net))

**DUES FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2015, THROUGH June 30, 2016**  
**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.

**New Bern Newcomers Club  
Officers and Directors  
For 2015-2016**

President :	Jim Wittmeyer
Vice President for Programs:	Terry Watts
Vice President for Activities:	Betty Todd
Secretary:	Sharon Champney
Treasurer:	Gary Todd

**Executive Board Member  
For 2015-2016**

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