

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



**New Bern, NC**

**October 2015**

### **President's Message**

As we move into the autumn season, I am hoping that more and more members get involved in some of our programs. Our Board of Directors has done a stellar job in fulfilling their positions, and I commend them for their efforts.

We have registered 49 new participants this year, however, our total enrollment has decreased. I am hoping that many of these former members have simply forgotten to enroll. If anyone knows of past associates, who have not responded, suggest they sign up. Our by -laws require all members must be in good standing in order to participate in any of our programs or activities.

Our next Alumni General Meeting will held on Monday, **November 16, 7 pm**, at the Ministry Center. I hope to see many of you there.

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 29 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Oct 1 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Oct 5 Scrabble, 12:30 pm, Books-a-Million
- Oct 6 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Oct 6 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Oct 8 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Oct 13 Singles Mingles, Noon, Taberna Country Club
- Oct 13 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Sep 13 Wine Tasting, 4-6 pm, Meet and Greet
- Oct 13 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Oct 15 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Oct 15 Mexican Train Dominoes, 7 pm (Tentative)
- Oct 17 Wine Tasting: 7pm, Oktoberfest
- Oct 19 Scrabble, 6:00 pm, Schlotzsky's Deli
- Oct 20 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Oct 20 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Oct 22 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Oct 22 "New" Book Club, 1 pm, "Where They Found Her"
- Oct 23 Singles Mingles, 10 am, Kitchen on Trent
- Oct 24 Outdoor Adventure, 10 am, Carolina Kite Fest
- Oct 27 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Oct 28 "Original" Book Club, 1 pm, "Elephant Company"
- Oct 22 Dining Out
- Oct 27 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Oct 29 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
  
- Nov 4-6 Trip to Charlotte is Cancelled
- Nov 16 Alumni General Meeting, 7pm

## **Card Playing**

Two AGN members have expressed an interest in starting a Card Playing Activity. Pinochle is a possibility, although other games would be considered based on people's response. They have a room available to use on a regular basis. If interested, please contact Mary and Duane Fuller (252-288-5502), [maryimprints@gmail.com](mailto:maryimprints@gmail.com).

# 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 st 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

**Purpose:** The Newcomers/Alumni Bicycling Group is for those individuals who like to get exercise while enjoying the scenery around New Bern. We feature 'no drop' rides-- which means we don't leave anyone behind! We have been working to design options that allow more serious bikers to enjoy a longer distance at a faster pace, but also provide a choice for more leisurely riders to go at a more comfortable pace. We take breaks as needed. Routes will vary, allowing participants the chance to see different neighborhoods and the surrounding countryside

## Requested Gear:

1. A working bicycle (brakes, gears) with adequate safety items - lights, reflectors
2. A Helmet is mandatory.
3. Carry adequate water (minimum – 1 pt. / 500 ml).
4. Casual clothing (shorts) and top with bright colors.

Air pumps and/or lights are an option.

## Meeting Place:

A group email, including directions to a starting point, is sent out for weekend rides.

## We would love to have you join us!

Activity Leader	Home	Cell	Email
Keith Jackson		573-795-1837	<a href="mailto:jacksk59@yahoo.com">jacksk59@yahoo.com</a>
Dave Gerde	252-288-4371	631-759-6412	<a href="mailto:dgerde@netzero.net">dgerde@netzero.net</a>
Dave Monk	252-514-4546		<a href="mailto:davidmonk@gmail.com">davidmonk@gmail.com</a>

## Scheduled Events:

The activity leaders check the weather and weigh other factors as to when an event can be scheduled. Due to these factors, events are scheduled with short time frames ( within 1 to 2 weeks.) So have your helmet ready!



# Boaters



## Newcomers/AGN Boaters Group

The Boaters Group held its annual summer picnic at Jerry & Marci Crawford's house in Riverbend. We had a great turnout for the picnic despite the monsoons.

We are in the process of planning our proposed Agenda for the 2015-2016 Boating Season with many exciting events being looked into. We hope to have a good mix of boating activities, a couple of overnight land cruises as well as a number of interesting day trips to visit area attractions tied in with some visits to area restaurants. In addition to these activities we are going to try and schedule a couple educational talks dealing with boating in local waters and other boating topics of interest

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

<b>Activity Leader</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>Email</b>
<b>Keith Jackson</b>		573-795-1837	<a href="mailto:jacksk59@yahoo.com">jacksk59@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Bill McHale (AGN)</b>	252-288-6549	304-541-8321	<a href="mailto:bmchale@aol.com">bmchale@aol.com</a>
<b>Gary Todd (AGN)</b>	252-288-5502	603-380-5438	<a href="mailto:thetoddfamily10@gmail.com">thetoddfamily10@gmail.com</a>

## Scheduled Events

Coming Soon!

# 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 "Original" Book Group will be held on October 28 at 1:00 PM at the home of Mary Hudson. We will be discussing *Elephant Company* by Vicki Constantine Croke. Please contact Mary at 633-4630 or [maryjoe44@embarqmail.com](mailto:maryjoe44@embarqmail.com).
- Alumni has formed a “new” book club which meets 1-3 pm on the 4th Thursday of each month. Our book for October 22 is “Where They Found Her” by Kim McCreight. 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.



## Chess 4 Way

This activity is for those who wish to learn about and play a variation of standard chess called 4 Way Chess that is played with 4 players at once. Prior knowledge of standard chess is helpful, but not required.

DATE	TIME	WHERE
Every Tuesday	7:00 PM	Books-A-Million

Contact the Activity Leader for more information:

### Activity Leader

**Carmine Buscemi**  
**Dennis Pymm**

### Cell

**917-783-3036**  
**603-716-0006**

### Email

**cpbuscemi@gmail.com**  
**mipj49@yahoo.com**

# 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).

**October 22 (Thursday), 4:30 pm**

## **Dinner at Frank & Clara's Restaurant, Salter Path**

This month, the dining out group has been extended an invitation by long time Alumni members Ladonna and Bernard James to have wine before dinner at their ocean side condo in Grande Villa, Salter Path. They suggest that we then walk directly across the street to one of their favorite restaurants, Frank and Clara's. We are looking forward to visiting this Salter Path institution for the first time.

We will meet at 4:30 at Grande Villa, 1435 Salter Path Rd. Apt. 6G, and then walk at 5:30 to Frank and Clara's, 1440 Salter Path Rd. Ladonna suggest you might want to arrive early for a walk on the beach before drinks.

**Important Note:** Please **RSVP** to Bill Blakefield at [wblakefield@gmail.com](mailto:wblakefield@gmail.com) by October 19 if you wish to attend.



# Golf



**Newcomers / Alumni 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! For additional information or reservations, contact:

**Activity Leader**

**Tony Guadagnino**

**Cell**

407-312-9741

**Email**

[tonyguad1223@yahoo.com](mailto:tonyguad1223@yahoo.com)

**Scheduled Events:**

DATE	TIME	WHERE
TBD		

# MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

## Activity Leaders

Terri Watts	<a href="mailto:teresa.watts@suddenlink.net">teresa.watts@suddenlink.net</a>	252-288-4303
Esther Wilson	<a href="mailto:elske52@hotmail.com">elske52@hotmail.com</a>	252-288-6715

The goal is to have fun while playing Mexican Train Dominoes. Dominoes are a simple, easy to learn game played by people of all ages for centuries. You sit at a table of 6; you do not play with partners. The object of the game is to be the first player to place all of their dominoes. Dominoes may be placed onto the player's train, onto the Mexican train if available, or on the trains of other players under special circumstances. This game is a great way to socialize in a small group. We are seeking a total of 18 players, divided into groups of six to play at one of the three Hosts' houses. This event is patterned after the "Dining In" concept. By participating, you agree to host at least one game night. After all have signed up, a simplified matrix, modified from the "Dining In" matrix, will be distributed, to assign the Hosts and guests for each game night. The Host will provide a dessert (and a table for six players). The other players will bring an appetizer or snacks to be shared, PLUS any beverage that you would like to drink that evening.

Participants will be notified by e-mail of the location prior to the event. Activity is held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month and will start at 7:00 pm. Advance sign-up or show of interest by e-mail is required.

To sign up for Mexican Train Dominoes or to indicate interest in future Dominoes events, contact the Activity Leader by e-mail or phone.

The First Mexican Train Dominoes would begin on Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.

# 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 rain-out is constituted by already raining or bad outlook during the time of the adventure.

## Scheduled Events:

DATE	TIME	WHERE
Sat. Oct. 24 <sup>th</sup>	10:00AM	Atlantic Beach, NC. <b>Carolina Kite Fest.</b> Bring a kite and a camera and enjoy the day.
Sat. Nov. 14 <sup>th</sup>	10:30 AM	<b>Cliffs of the Neuse State Park</b>

**Activity Leader**  
June Dowd

**Home**  
252-571-5210

**Cell**

**Email**  
[junedowd515@gmail.com](mailto:junedowd515@gmail.com)

## 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  
Charlotte Gerde                [dgerde@netzero.net](mailto:dgerde@netzero.net)                252-288-4371

- *October 5      Scrabble, 12:30, Books a Million*
- *October 19    Scrabble, 6:00 pm, Schlotzsky's Deli*

# Singles Mingles

The Singles Mingles Group combines Newcomers and Alumni members and meets twice a month at various locations to socialize. All single Newcomers Club members are welcome to join. This is a singles-only group and is not intended as a dating service.

For more information or if you are interested in receiving emails or hosting a get-together at your home, please contact:

Activity Leader	Home	Cell	Email
Linda Guthrie		724-622-1568	<a href="mailto:lindaguthrie50@gmail.com">lindaguthrie50@gmail.com</a>
Sharon Champney (AGN)	252-633-7824		<a href="mailto:slfchamp@yahoo.com">slfchamp@yahoo.com</a>
Chris Jacesko (Cheer Fund)	252-288-5426		<a href="mailto:chrisjacesko@hotmail.com">chrisjacesko@hotmail.com</a>

## ~ Upcoming Singles Mingles Socials ~

(Please watch for emails 1-2 weeks before each event)

DATE	TIME	WHERE
Tues. Oct 13 <sup>th</sup>	12 Noon	Taberna Country Club
Fri. Oct. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10 AM	Kitchen On Trent

If you are interested in hosting a get-together at your home just let us know we can always add a date on our calendar.

**All Singles Mingles** Activity members will be contacted by email, announcing each event. Please RSVP so we have an accurate expected head count.

### Singles Mingles Socials in the Past

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

# Tennis



TENNIS

CLUB

## Activity Leaders

Carmine Buscemi [cpbuscemi@gmail.com](mailto:cpbuscemi@gmail.com) 917-783-3036

Dennis Pymm [dtpymm@yahoo.com](mailto:dtpymm@yahoo.com) 603-716-0006

The Tennis Club offers two levels of play. Our Recreational level is for any level ability for those who enjoy relaxed doubles play. For those who prefer more competitive play for doubles or singles we also have our Challenge level.

## Schedule

Recreational Group Tuesdays 8:30 to 10:00

Challenge Group Thursdays 8:30 to 10:00

## Location

We meet at the New Bern Recreation Center located at 1225 Pinetree Drive,  
New Bern.

# Wine Group

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.)

\*\*\*\*\*

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