

Alumni Group of Newcomers (AGN) Opportunities for Active People



New Bern, NC

January 2016

President's Message

Greetings, I hope everyone is enjoying the holiday season, especially the party. Regretfully I was unable to attend and I would like to thank Betty Todd for filling in for me. From all reports, it was an entertaining evening and you may have set a new attendance record. Additionally, I would like to express my appreciation to Dianne Koonce for arranging this event.

I suggest that everyone take a look at the January Newsletter for activities. There are some that you may enjoy.

Finally, we will be holding a **January General Membership** meeting on January 18th. It will be held at the Harrison Center (Formally known as the Christ Church Ministry Center) 311 Middle at 7 PM. Again, we will be having a guest speaker and refreshments will be available. I hope you attend.

Jim Wittmeyer (golfwitt@gmail.com)

~ Calendar of Events ~

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

- Jan 4 Scrabble, 12:30 pm, Books-a-Million
- Jan 5 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Jan 5 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Jan 7 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Jan 8 Singles Mingles, 1 pm, Paula's Restaurant
- Jan 10 WineTasting Pary, 4 pm
- Jan 12 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Jan 12 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Jan 14 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Jan 18 Scrabble, 6 pm, Schlotzsky's Deli
- Jan 18 Alumni General Meeting, 7pm
- Jan 19 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Jan 19 Singles Mingles, 10 am, Yoder's Dutch Pantry
- Jan 21 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Jan 21 Mexican Train Dominoes, 7 pm
- Jan 21 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Jan 22 Boaters Group Post Holiday Party, 6-9 pm
- Jan 26 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Jan 26 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Jan 28 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Jan 27 "Original" Book Club, 1 pm, *The Boys in the Boat*
- Jan 27 Dining Out, 5:30 pm, Dinner at La Casetta
- Jan 28 "New" Book Club, 1 pm, *The Girl on the Train*

Newcomer-Alumni Fall Meeting

Guest Speaker TBD

**January 18, 2015 7pm
Harrison (Christ Church) Ministry Center
311 Middle Street, New Bern**



Boaters Group Annual Post Holiday Party

Date: January 22, 2016 (Friday)

Time: 6 PM to 9 PM (Social hour 6-7 PM), then dinner and gift exchange

Where: Chelsea Restaurant, New Bern NC, corner Middle and Broadway

Entrée: Choice of Pork Tenderloin, Baked Salmon or Beef Tenderloin.

Cost: \$20 per person, with cash bar.

Chinese Gift Swap: Bring a \$10 gift, and participate in a fun and suspenseful way to exchange gifts.

RSVP thetoddfamily10@gmail.com, 252-288-5502, with dinner selection by **January 15th**.

Please make check out to Newcomers-AGN Boaters Group and mail to:

**Gary Todd
7 Pier Pt
New Bern, NC 28562**

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

How do you sign up? To join a group, just come to the next Alumni Newcomers meeting on January 18 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	jacksk59@yahoo.com
Dave Gerde	252-288-4371	631-759-6412	dgerde@netzero.net
Dave Monk	252-514-4546		davidmonk@gmail.com

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.

Activity Leader	Home	Cell	Email
Keith Jackson		573-795-1837	jacksk59@yahoo.com
Bill McHale (AGN)	252-288-6549	304-541-8321	bmchale@aol.com
Gary Todd (AGN)	252-288-5502	603-380-5438	thetoddfamily10@gmail.com

[Boaters Calendar for the Season.](#)

Book Group

- The "Old Original Book Group" meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month in members' homes. The next meeting of the "Original" Book Group will be held on January 27 at 1:00 PM at the home of Mary Hudson. We will be discussing *The Boys in the Boat*. Please let Mary know if you plan to attend (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 January 28 is *The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins. The meeting will be at the home of Esther Wilson. You're welcome to join us and for more information, contact Esther Wilson elske52@hotmail.com



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 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).

January 27 (Wednesday), 5:30 pm

Dinner at La Casetta

This month, the Dining Out group will visit the La Casetta restaurant. The owners are working hard to bring a taste of Sicily to North Carolina. They take pride in their fresh ingredients and sauces that are prepared daily. Please join us on Wednesday, January 27, for an enjoyable dining experience.

Important Note: Please **RSVP** to Bill Blakefield at wblakefield@gmail.com by January 25 if you wish to attend.

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

Activity Leaders

Terri Watts	teresa.watts@suddenlink.net	252-288-4303
Esther Wilson	elske52@hotmail.com	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 3rd 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.

This month's Mexican Train Dominoes will be held on Thursday, January 21.

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
January		Nothing scheduled for January.

Kite Flying Festival at Atlantic Beach



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 757- 650 5469
Charlotte Gerde dgerde@netzero.net 252-288-4371

- *January 4* *Scrabble, 12:30, Books a Million*
- *January 18* *Scrabble, 6:00 pm, Schlotzsky's Deli*

Singles Mingles

Singles Mingles is a combined activity of Newcomers and Alumni members and has events twice a month for coffee, lunch, or dinner in various restaurants near New Bern or in a member's home. Singles Mingles is a singles-only activity that meets to socialize, but is not a dating service.

For more information, want to receive emails or interested in hosting a get-together at your home please contact:

Activity Leader	Phone	Email
Linda Guthrie	724-622-1568	lindaguthrie50@gmail.com
Sharon Champney (Alumni)	252-633-7824	slfchamp@yahoo.com
Chris Jacesko (Cheer Fund)	252-288-5426	chrisjacesko@hotmail.com

~ Upcoming Singles Mingles Socials ~

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

DATE	TIME	WHERE
January 8	1 pm	Paula's Pizza and Italian Restaurant
January 19	10 am	Yoder's Dutch Pantry

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.

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 917-783-3036

Dennis Pymm dtpymm@yahoo.com 603-716-0006

The Tennis Club offers two levels of play. Our Recreational level is for any level of 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

First Party after the Holiday Season

Sunday, January 10, 2016

4:00 to 7:00 pm

at the home of

Doug and Sharyn Foster
123 Tupelo Trail - New Bern

635-1426 / sarasgee@suddenlink.net

Bring a heavy hors d'ourves

Host will supply wassail and wine, but feel free to bring beverage of your choice.
Contact the Fosters to reserve (limited seating). Please respond by January 3.

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

Chairpersons:

Dee Dricks (dricksdee@gmail.com)

June Dowd (junedowd515@gmail.com)

Paul Merriman (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