

Alumni Group of Newcomers (AGN) Opportunities for Active People



New Bern, NC

February 2016

President's Message

This has been a good year for the Alumni. We have had new pastimes initiated and increases in participation in many of the present activities.

The holiday party was an enjoyable celebration, with a large contingent of Alumni attending (thanks to the Newcomer's for playing host).

Our general meetings attendance has increased each meeting, and more members are becoming involved in our programs.

Additionally, our social committee is working hard for our Spring Social. They hope to make it the best one we have ever had.

Finally, our enrollment has now reached over 200 associates, and we are still growing. I thank you for making the Alumni a great organization!

Jim Wittmeyer (golfwitt@gmail.com)

~ Calendar of Events ~

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

- Feb 2 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Feb 2 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Feb 4 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Feb 5 Singles Mingles, 5 pm, Arturo's
- Feb 8 Scrabble, 12:30 pm, Books-a-Million
- Feb 9 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Feb 9 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Feb 11 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Feb 12 Boaters Group, Trip to Myrtle Beach
- Feb 16 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Feb 17 Singles Mingles, 1 pm, Famous Subs & Pizza
- Feb 16 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Feb 18 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Feb 18 Dining Out, 11:30 am, Lunch at the Ruddy Duck
- Feb 18 Mexican Train Dominoes, 7 pm
- Feb 22 Scrabble, 6 pm, Schlotzsky's Deli
- Feb 23 Chess 4 Way, 7 pm, Books-a-Million
- Feb 23 Tennis (Recreational), 8:30 am
- Feb 24 "Original" Book Club, 1 pm, *Remains of the Day*
- Feb 25 Tennis (Challenge), 8:30 am
- Feb 25 New Book Club, 1 pm, *In an Instant*
- Feb 26 Wine Tasting, 7:00 pm, Souper Soup Night
- Feb 28 "New" Book Club, 1 pm, *The Girl on the Train*
- Mar 12 Outdoor Adventure, Ranger Station, Croatan National Forest

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.](#)

Below, see the Trip Schedule (Feb. 12-14) for the Boaters Group "Broadway at the Beach." A [flyer for the trip](#) is on the Newcomers website.

Boaters Group "Broadway at the Beach"

<p>Friday Morning –Feb 12th</p>	<p>Travel to Myrtle Beach</p> <p>Base Hotel: Courtyard By Marriott 1351 21st Ave Tel: 843-445-6333 *</p>	<p>Approx 3 Hour Drive</p> <p>Rates \$131/night plus tax (Non-Cancel)* \$149/night plus tax (Free Cancel) * (½ mi from Broadway at the Beach)</p>
<p>Friday Afternoon –Feb 12th</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch 12:00 noon - 1:30pm • Dinner 6:00-7:30 pm • 8:00 (time approximate) 	<p>Jimmy Buffets Margaretville</p> <p>Rioz Brazilian Steakhouse</p> <p>Crocodile Rocks</p>	<p>Broadway at the Beach Complex</p> <p>Crocodile Rocks features dueling pianos pounding out songs on request. Non-stop entertainment, lot of fun, lots of laughs. Located in the heart of Broadway at the Beach and within walking distance from our hotel.</p>
<p>Saturday Morning – Feb 13th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open</p>	<p>Enjoy Activities/Shopping at Broadway at the Beach or tour local attractions on own.</p>	
<p>Saturday Afternoon – Feb 13th</p> <p>Lunch 11:45 am to 1:15pm</p> <p>1:30 PM -4:00 PM</p> <p>Dinner 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM</p> <p>Concert at 7pm Motor City Musical</p>	<p>Key West Grill</p> <p>Tour: Ripley Aquarium Hollywood Wax Museum</p> <p>Ciao Italian Restaurant</p> <p>GTS Theater – 1220 Port Drive Tickets \$30.00/person plus tax (843-765-4386)</p>	<p>Broadway at the Beach Complex</p> <p>5223 N. Kings Highway; 843-449-5700</p> <p>Tribute to Motown, featuring songs of Diana Ross, Stevie Wonder, The Temptations, Aretha Franklin, Four Tops and many more!</p>
<p>Sunday Morning – Feb 14th</p>	<p>Travel Back to New Bern</p>	

For those traveling w/pets, the following Hotels close by Broadway at the Beach are pet friendly:

- La Quinta Inn & Suites: 1561 21st Ave (843-449-5231) Direct Resv #; or via Hotel.com – Tel 800-246-8357 or online
Rate: -- \$ 79/night plus tax (Free Cancellation)
- Comfort Suites: 710 Frontage Road (877-424-6423) Direct Resv #; or via Hotel.com –Tel 800-246-8357 or online
Rate -- \$ 110/night plus tax (Non-Cancellable)
\$ 129/night plus tax (Free Cancellation)

* This number is a direct number to the Courtyard Reservations. If you book through www.hotels.com (800-246-8357) you can get a discounted room rate. The Hotels.com rate for the Courtyard is \$ 135.65 (free cancellation); Non-cancellable rate would be \$119.00/night, but you will need to book through the Hotels .com to get this rate. None of the above rates include taxes, so your actual charges will be a little higher.

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 February 25 at 1:00 PM at the home of Nancy Duane. We will be discussing *Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro. Please let Nancy know if you plan to attend (nhncntd@centurylink.net).
- Alumni has formed a “new” book club which meets 1-3 pm on the 4th Thursday of each month. This month, we will be discussing **In an Instant** by Lee Woodruff, at the home of one of our members. This is the story of Lee Woodruff who was injured by an explosive device while covering the conflict in Iraq, and sustained a traumatic brain injury. If you are interested in joining this group please notify either Esther Wilson at elske52@hotmail.com or Jan Manning at janmanning@suddenlink.net.



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

Cell

Email

Carmine Buscemi

917-783-3036

cpbuscemi@gmail.com

Dennis Pymm

603-716-0006

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).

February 18 (Thursday), 11:30 am

Lunch at the Ruddy Duck Tavern

This month, the Dining Out group will visit the Ruddy Duck Tavern in Morehead City. Their menu offers a little bit of everything: Italian, Mexican and Asian dishes and, of course, fine seafood. The service is excellent and the waterfront view is marvelous. Please join us on Wednesday, February 18, for an enjoyable dining experience. The Ruddy Duck is at 509 Evans Street in Morehead City.

Important Note: Please **RSVP** to Bill Blakefield at wblakefield@gmail.com by February 15 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, February 18.

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.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

Saturday, March 12, 10:00 a.m.

Starting out at the Ranger Station at Croatan National Forest on Route 70 West and East Fisher Avenue

District Ranger Jim Gumm will be our tour guide.

Directions to Ranger Station: Take Rt. 70 E from New Bern. Starting from the railroad tracks on the highway in James City, drive about 7.5 miles. Look for sign on right saying NATIONAL FOREST RANGER STATION NEXT LEFT.

Following the Croatan National Forest tour, we will proceed to the Aviation Heritage Foundation for a tour in Havelock, Route 70 East and Tourist Center Drive.

Directions to Aviation Foundation: Take Rt. 70 E and drive about 7.8 miles from the Ranger Station to Havelock Tourist Center. It is located behind our luncheon restaurant near the Hampton Inn. (Look for the jet.)

Lunch will follow at La Casa del Patron, located on Route 70 East in front of the Aviation Center.

No sign-up; just show up.

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

- *February 8 Scrabble, 12:30, Books a Million*
- *February 22 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
February 5	5 pm	Arturo's Italian
February 17	1 pm	Famous Subs & Pizza

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

Souper Soup Night

Bring your favorite soup to share (serving about 8 people) and a bottle of wine

Friday, February 26, 7:00 p.m.

at the home of

Linda and Charlie Danneman
111 Arbon Lane
New Bern (Taberna) (634-1648)

Contact June Dowd by February 20 to reserve seating as there is limited space.

There is a \$1/pp admission charge payable at the event.

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.

The nominating committee has selected the following candidates for the 2016-2017 offices: President: Betty Todd, VP for Programs: Terry Watts, VP for Activities: CarolMcHale, Treasurer: Gary Todd, and Secretary: Carol Altgibers.

**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