

DECEMBER 2010

 **SIMSBURY** 
NEWCOMERS CLUB

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Newcomer's Members,

As sip my coffee on this chilly morning I can't help thinking about what fun was had a last night's Meet & Greet wine event. The crowd of more than 50 was chatty and cheerful as they sampled California wines and noshed on an enticing variety of hors d'oeuvres and sweets. At least five new newcomers attended and all remarked on how helpful it was to be able to meet people in such a low key and festive way. Helping newcomers feel comfortable in their new community is at the heart of what we do and our group does it well. Kudos to our gracious hostess Cheryl Sojkowski and kudos to everyone who came.

With thoughts turning to the holidays and the attendant flurry of activities I'd like to extend the board's warmest wishes for a wonderful Thanksgiving. And, if you have any time on Sunday, November 21, the Gabel Basket Brigade will be assembling Thanksgiving baskets at Lewis Mill High School in Burlington. Last year this dynamic group assembled over 340 baskets which were delivered to less fortunate families in the Farmington River Valley. If you'd like more information please telephone 860-673-2342.

Finally – there are two important December dates to mark on your calendars. The first is Wednesday, December 8, which will be our holiday luncheon at the Simsbury Inn and the second is Saturday, December 18, which is the date of our annual evening holiday party. Information on both events will be coming soon.

Happy Thanksgiving.

Monique Aduddell

DATES TO REMEMBER

Board meeting December 2, 7:00pm at Katherine Estell's home.

Holiday Party is right around the corner! Please plan on joining the fun and excitement of our annual Holiday Party this year, to be held on the evening of Saturday, December 18, 2010.

Holiday Luncheon at the Simsbury Inn, on December 8th. See the "Ladies' Lunch Bunch" section for more information and how to get in on that!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Do you have a daughter/son who would like to baby-sit? Send Patty information of members' children who are interested to baby-sit. Do you have a service provider you would like to recommend? Patty maintains a "List of Services Recommended by Newcomers". This is available at the Coffees or can be emailed to members upon request. If you have a recommended service provider, or if you have feedback (good or bad) on anyone on a previous version of this list, please contact Patty Howland at 860-408-9485.

GIRLFRIEND'S CORNER

Welcome to Girlfriend's Corner, where we wish our Newcomer friends happy birthday, and send them get-well wishes as needed. If you think there is a Newcomer who would appreciate a get-well card, new baby, or condolence card, please contact Charlotte Ray by phone or by email.

Charlotte Ray
860-651-4611
ray-ja@att.net

Happy Birthday Wishes to the following members:

Holly Brennan, Suzanne Harrington, Divina Marcktell, Charlotte Ray, Cindy Schafer, Lori Rappaport, and Heather Wojciechowski

MEMBERSHIP & DIRECTORY

Have you met someone new to town? Or do you have a friend or neighbor that you would like to spend more time with? Invite them to join the fun and become members of Simsbury Newcomers Club. Encourage them to come to one of our many events as your guest.

Katherine Estell
860-217-0260
kate623@comcast.net

Do they know they do not have to be new to the area or live in Simsbury to become a member? With more than 20 diverse activity groups there's something for everyone!

Dues are \$24 for the current membership year. Checks should be made payable to "Simsbury Newcomers Club" and sent to Katherine Estell at 11 Laurel Lane, Simsbury, CT 06070 along with the completed membership form.

Now is the time to renew your membership to continue receiving the newsletter and be included in the 2010-11 directory.

Membership entitles you to:

- A copy of the monthly Newsletter via email.
- One copy of the Directory and periodic updates.
- Access to the many activity groups, and
- Childcare for daytime program meetings for a small fee.

Please note that the Directory is for the exclusive use of Club members, cannot be used for solicitation, and will NOT be included on the website. Additional copies of the directory may be purchased (while available) for \$2.00.

Membership forms will be available at meetings/events and online at: <http://simsburynewcomersclub.org/join-us/membership-form>.

CIVIC CONCERNS

We are helping families in Simsbury this holiday by collecting gifts cards in the amount of \$10, \$15, and \$25. I am working with Charlotte at Simsbury Social Services to fulfill

Simsbury's families' needs for a holiday dinner and a gift for each child. The gift cards can be from any grocery store and from any store such as: Bob's, Best Buy, Target, Game Stop, TJ Maxx, Old Navy, Dick's, American Eagle, & Wal-Mart. Please send gift cards to Sheila Scott. Simsbury Social Services needs them around Dec.10th.

Sheila Scott
860-321-7022
scott0297@att.net

FAMILY EVENTS

Hello All!

Randi Stamboulis
860-944-0944
rlstamboulis@comcast.net

We had a great Haunted Hayride in October. Lots of tricks to be had that night!

We will be participating in the Gabel Basket Brigade on November 21 1pm-4pm. There is still time to sign up. Great event to kick off the holiday season. We have a total of 28 baskets to fill, 18 from which the Simsbury Newcomers Club donated and 10 from the Simsbury Rotary. We still need families to come out and help fill the baskets! RSVP to Randi Stamboulis.

With the holidays being such a busy time for everyone, I have decided to give just a sample of the many happenings throughout the area for you to explore.

(con't...)

(Family Events, con't...)

In Simsbury we have Simsbury Celebrates! that takes place on November 27, which is the Saturday after Thanksgiving. The festivities start at 4:30 pm with various activities, a fire truck parade at 7:30pm and the fireworks following at Simsbury Meadows. For details visit www.simsburycelebrates.com. A great event for families that has "something for everyone"!

Also in Simsbury we have "Breakfast with Santa" at Flamig Farms. Visit www.FlamigFarms.com for details and information. Great for young children! Sign up early as they have limited space.

If you have children that like Legos, the Lego Kids Fest is coming to the CT Convention Center on December 3-5. Information at www.LEGOkidsfest.com.

In West Hartford at Saint Joseph College, the Ballet theater Company will be putting on "The Nutcracker" December 17-20. Tickets and information at www.dancebtc.org.

"A Christmas Carol", a ghost story of Christmas, by Charles Dickens will be playing at the Hartford Stage in Hartford. November 26 – December 31. Tickets on sale now, www.hartfordstage.org.

Looking for something for the family to do on "Black Friday"? Disney Live! Mickey's Magic Show playing on November 26 information and tickets, www.disneylive.com.

In Avon on December 3 starting at 6:30pm, lighting the flame on the "Kids For Kids Candle of Hope". Christmas tree lighting, an old fashion carol sing, Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive by sleigh, hayrides and holiday goodies. Free admission and parking, for more inflammation visit www.riverdalefarmsshopping.com.

This is just a sampling of the many things going on in our area. Too many to just choose one for our group! Hope I have provided enough for everyone to consider something for your families to get out and enjoy together during this fabulous season!

Have a wonderful Holiday and joyous New Year!

NEWSLETTER

Anyone selling, renting or providing a non-club service can advertise in our newsletter.

We issue 10 newsletters throughout the year, starting in September and running through June. We now offer a 1/4page (or business card-sized) ad to run in our newsletter for the duration of the year for a flat fee of \$90. (We also offer a single-issue ad for a flat rate of \$20.) The ad will also be visible in the Newsletter section of our website.

If you are interested in placing an advertisement in the newsletter, please contact Shelly Cole by the 9th to be placed in next month's newsletter.

Shelly Cole
860-217-1030

foolish.visions@gmail.com

BOOK DISCUSSION – DAYS

Welcome to Daytime Book Group! We meet either the third or fourth Friday morning of each month and enjoy lively but informal discussion about our book selections. Our meetings last about 1 1/2 hours while a volunteer reviewer provides background information on the author and introduces discussion questions. Rotating hostesses supply coffee, snacks and the venue. Both new and seasoned members are welcome. We look forward to seeing you! Please R.S.V.P. to Patrice Sala or Camilla Thompson if you have any questions.

Patrice Sala
860-523-9031
PatriceSala@aol.com

Camilla Thompson
860-658-2038
CBThomp@aol.com

Here are the selections for 2010-2011:

Dec 16: "The Girl Who Fell From the Sky", by Heidi Durrow
Host: Jen Halbert - (860) 408-1356
Reviewer: V. Semler

February 17: "Beneath the Marble Sky", by John Schors
Host: Becky Kreczko - (860) 651-0814
Reviewer: C. Jamieson

Jan 20: "My Cousin Rachel", by Daphne du Maurier
Host: Arlene Croce - (860) 413-2080
Reviewer: J. Halbert

March 24: "When Men Win Glory", by Jon Krakauer
Host: Vicky Carey - (860) 726-1989
Reviewer: C. Thompson

BOOK DISCUSSION – EVENINGS

A good book is even better when you can talk about it with friends! Join us for lively discussions one evening a month – generally the first Tuesday, at 7PM. We meet in member's homes and convivial local taverns and restaurants. To receive monthly updates with meeting dates, reading selections and locations, contact Cindy.

Cindy Schafer
860-232-2690
cindyschafer@att.net

December 7, 2010 - "Cheating at Canasta" by William Trevor

For January, we'll read these two short books!

January 4, 2011 - "Last Night at the Lobster" by Stewart O'Nan

January 4, 2011 - "The Interrogative Mood: A Novel?" by Padgett Powell

February 1, 2011 - "Beneath a Marble Sky: A Love Story" by John Shors

COUPLES' BRIDGE

Couple's Bridge meets on the third Saturday of the month. We usually meet in couples' homes and begin at 7:30 PM. We have a variety of bridge levels, so please don't be intimidated. Also, a commitment to one month does not commit you for the whole year. We sign up month to month according to our social schedules. I need a call in advance just to be sure we will have even tables.

Mary Verbeke
860-217-1274
marypco@yahoo.com

LADIES' BRIDGE

Ladies' Bridge meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month between 7:00-7:30 PM at the host house. We are a fun group of 2 or 3 tables of party bridge. Come join us by signing up early. Call Ida after 6 PM or call the hostess to see if there's a cancellation. Please contact Ida for this month's schedule.

Ida Coulter
860- 651-6557
Coulter@Hartford.edu

BUNKO

Are you looking for something fun to fill one morning a month? Do you love the thrill of competition? If so, why not sign up to play Bunko. This is an easy dice game you can learn in a few minutes. Join us as a regular or a sub. If you are interested, call Arlene Zappile at 408-9044.

Arlene Zappile
860-408-9044
ronarlz@comcast.net

EVENING BUNKO

Happy Holidays!

Thank you Cindy for a wonderful evening and your hospitality! We all appreciate you hosting us, especially since it was at the last minute.

With all the events and parties taking place in December we felt it may be difficult to meet so we will get together on January 12 at Randi Stamboulis' house. Please RSVP to Randi Stamboulis if you plan to attend.

See you then!

Randi Stamboulis
860-944-0944
rlstamboulis@comcast.net

LADIES' LUNCH BUNCH

SNC Holiday Luncheon at Simsbury Inn!

Come celebrate the holidays with your Newcomer friends at the festively-decorated Simsbury Inn on Wednesday, December 8th at 11:30 am. Buffet lunch, including one soft drink, coffee or tea, tax and tip is \$21 per person (payment due at luncheon). In keeping with tradition, if you would like to participate in a Yankee Swap hosted by Patty Howland, please bring one wrapped item with a minimum value of \$15 to exchange with friends.

Please RSVP by December 1st to Divina Marcktell at 860-658-5911. This event is open to the entire club – not just for the Ladies Lunch Bunch activity group – so Patty and I hope to see many of you there!

Divina Marcktell
860-658-5911
divina_marcktell@yahoo.com

MOVIE NIGHT!

Please join us for Movie Night!. Movie Night is usually the 4th Friday of the month, although we sometimes select a Saturday evening or Sunday matinee. "Good eats" afterward is always an option. Please email Marylou if you would like to get on the Movie Night Mailing List. Husbands, boyfriends, families are all welcome!

Marylou Lavoie
860-651-3130
mlpatent@aol.com

COUPLES' PADDLE TENNIS

The Couple's Paddle Tennis Group plays at Simsbury Farms every Sunday afternoon from 4:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. throughout the winter. This is an informal, noncompetitive league combining social activity with good outdoor winter exercise. Each session follows a round-robin format so members experience playing with different partners. We start in November and end in March. Please contact Camilla Thompson if you are interested in participating. See you on the courts!

Camilla Thompson
860-658-2038
CBThomp@aol.com

LADIES' PADDLE TENNIS

Platform Tennis is played outdoors, on raised courts, during the colder months. In snowy conditions, the courts are heated to melt the wintry mix. We play mornings at Simsbury Farms on Mondays from 9:30-11, and on Thursdays from 8-9:30. It's a great way to socialize with new & old friends, and to stay active through those long winter months. The roster is full, but if you would like to be added to the sub list, or if you have any questions or need more information, please contact Carolyn Brand at 860-408-1566. Hope to see you on the courts.

Carolyn Brand
860-408-1566
brandcmb@aol.com

PINOCHLE

This group meets once a month at a different member's home for an evening of fun and cards. New players are welcome. Don't worry if you don't know how to play, we'll teach you. We generally play on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, but call Judy to confirm the location. There is also a Couple's Pinochle Group outside of Newcomers. Judy can get you connected to this group.

Judy Rabinowitz
860-658-9262
jhr123@sbcglobal.net

NEEDLEWORK

Come and join us every Monday of the week (except Holidays) from 10:30 am to 1:30pm. We meet at members' homes, so call or email for locations. If you don't have a project you are working on right now, feel free to come and just join in on the conversation!

Please contact Sheila Scott for more information.

Sheila Scott
860-321-7022
scott0297@att.net

POTLUCK DINNER

The Potluck Interest group meets the first Saturday of the month. We want to thank our hosts, Ida Coulter and Joel Kagan, and Jennifer and Richard Halbert for the wonderful time everyone had at the November potluck dinner. It was nice to see new faces along with the old members. We hope to be able to host as many every month. We had 42 at the two homes. We do need people to host, so if you are in the group and haven't hosted recently or would like to get on the list for this year, please notify us ASAP. We need homes for February, March, and May.

Janet Marcum
860-217-1187
janjerm@yahoo.com

Marilyn Iezzi
860-404-8945
mwiezzi@sbcglobal.net

WALKING-RAMBLE GROUP

As the season changes from fall to winter, we continue to walk at 9AM on weekday mornings. It is really healthy both physically and mentally to start off your day with good exercise and enjoyable conversation. We meet at 9AM in the Park & Ride lot on the lower level behind CVS and then walk along the Greenway trail by Iron Horse Boulevard. You are always welcome to join us on any morning that fits your schedule. Have a wonderful holiday season!

Charlotte Ray
860-651-4611
ray-ja@att.net

WINE & WOMEN

We'd like to send a special thank you to Charlotte Ray for hosting our first event in October (and to Jim for directing the parking). It was great to meet our newest members and reconnect with friends from last year. We will not be having an event in December but we look forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Party. Our next event will be on January 20, 2011. We are working on the location and will have more details in next months newsletter. If you'd like to be added to our email list so you get the monthly reminder, please email or call one of us.

Cheryl Sojkowski
860-658-2199
CSOJKOWSKI@comcast.net

Joanne Alfieri
860-658-2828
Joanne.Alfieri@gmail.com

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(860)581-4014, avonct@snapfitness.com, snapfitness.com/avonct

DECEMBER 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Walking	2 Walking Ladies' Paddle Tennis Board Meeting	3 Walking	4 Potluck
5 Couple's Paddle Tennis	6 Walking Ladies' Paddle Tennis Ladies' Bridge	7 Walking Book Discussion - Evenings	8 Walking Holiday Luncheon Pinochle Evening Bunko	9 Walking Ladies' Paddle Tennis	10 Walking	11
12 Couple's Paddle Tennis	13 Walking Ladies' Paddle Tennis	14 Walking	15 Walking Bunko	16 Walking Ladies' Paddle Tennis Book Discussion - Days Wine & Women	17 Walking	18 Couple's Bridge Holiday Party!
19 Couple's Paddle Tennis	20 Walking Ladies' Paddle Tennis Ladies' Bridge	21 Walking	22 Walking	23 Walking Ladies' Paddle Tennis	24 Walking Movie Night!	25 Happy Holidays!
26 Couple's Paddle Tennis	27 Walking Ladies' Paddle Tennis	28 Walking	29 Walking	30 Walking Ladies' Paddle Tennis	31 Walking	



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