

Simsbury Newcomers Newsletter – October 2017

President's Corner

[Shari Cassutt](#) 860-988-0021 505 670-4982

Happy October! It was wonderful to see so many of you at Sign-Ups. The room was filled with happy energy. Thanks again to all who worked so hard to pull this off.

By now you have probably received an email from the activity chairs of the groups that you signed up for. If you haven't this would be a good time to reach out to the activity chair (listed below). Mistakes and oversights do happen! Remember, it is never too late to join a mailing list.

A big "Thank You" to Brynn Brown who has joined the board as the Civic Concerns representative. We look forward to the information she will be sharing with us.

There's lots going on this month.

Mark Your Calendars!

October 15th – last day to renew or join and have your information included in this year's Membership Directory booklet.

October 25th 10 am to Noon – Meet and Greet. This is a chance to welcome new members to the Newcomers community. Returning members will supply some goodies but for those of you who are attending your first Meet and Greet just bring your smiles. Watch your email for more information.

October 28th 6:30 to 9:30 – Fall Potluck. Camilla Thompson and Eileen Higham are working hard on our first all-club event. This year's theme will be Oktoberfest. You will be seeing more information about this soon.

Activity Club Highlights

Please scroll down for additional details and to read more about ALL of our activities.

Book Discussion, Daytime – *Forty Autumns* by Nina Wilner
Book Discussion, Evening – *Mayflower* by Nathaniel Philbrick
Crafts Group – topiaries
Dining Out – Casa Mia at the Hawthorne
Discover New England – Naumkeag Cottage and gardens
PopUps – Art pARTy, silk scarves
Theatre Group – *Evita*
Walking Group – autumn hike to Hubelin Tower

Membership

[Toni Robinson](#) 860-217-1915

We currently have 130 members, including 27 new members.

We had a wonderful turnout for our Annual Membership Renewal and Activity Sign-up Event. Thank you to all who attended and joined or renewed.

It's not too late to join or renew. If you are a current member and would like to renew, please send your \$24 membership check to:

Toni Robinson
112 Library Lane
Simsbury, CT 06070

Membership entitles you to:

- Join in the many activity groups and events
- A hard copy of the Members Directory and periodic email Quick List updates
- A monthly email Newsletter
- Access to our [Simsbury Newcomers Website](#) which includes our members only membership list and our members only Forum Page
- Join our [Simsbury Newcomers Facebook page](#)

*The **new 2017-2018 Member Directory will be mailed out in November.** Please review your information on the password-protected section of the website. E-mail Toni tonirobinson22@gmail.com with any updates, corrections, your new address, new email address or new phone number as soon as possible. *All changes must be received by October 15 to be included in the new Directory.*

Please note that the Directory is for the exclusive use of Club members and cannot be used for solicitation.

Happy October Birthdays!

- Brynn Brown
- Donna Caldeira
- Laurie Colvin
- Ida Coulter
- Elayne Cree
- Sue Gannon
- Joanna Gaucher
- Maria Hilhorst
- Janet Marcum
- Joanne Monaco
- Sheryl Oken
- Adrienne Panning
- Lynn Rynar
- Whitney Shea
- Rekha Shertukde
- Christine Sinopoli
- Debbie Trovato
- Kay Yazvac

[View the Calendar](#)

Community Events

[Patty Howland](#) 860-470-7771

Simsbury Community Calendar

Looking for something fun to do in Simsbury? Check out our new Simsbury Community Calendar on the Town website. Check it out: www.simsburyevents.com

3rd Annual Simsbury Spooktacular Chili Challenge

Saturday, October 28 12pm – 5pm
Simsbury Meadows, 22 Iron Horse Blvd
Ticket information: \$10 age 11 and up
[Chamber of Commerce – Chili Challenge](#)

Join us for Simsbury's best family event, the 3rd Annual Simsbury Spooktacular Chili Challenge! There's live music, shopping, and beer and wine for the adults; trick-or-treating, costume contest, and touch-a-truck for the kids; and, of course, plenty of tasty chili for everyone! Also a restaurant chili cookoff as well. We've even added a Youth Division this year, so get the kids involved!

Civic Concerns

[Brynn Brown](#) 860-301-9977

No updates this month.

ACTIVITIES

Book Discussion – Daytime

[Jane Fox](#) 860-658-0388

Welcome to Daytime Book Discussion Group! This year we will be meeting at **9:30 a.m.** the third Friday of each month. We enjoy lively but informal discussion about our book selections. Don't hesitate to join us! Many copies of our titles are available through the Simsbury Public Library. Check at the front desk for books on hold for the Newcomers' Daytime Book Discussion Group. Don't forget to e-mail the hostess if you plan to attend so she can plan appropriately.

Our first book meeting will be on Oct. 20 at 9:30 a.m. at Joanne Pomerantz's house. The book we will be reading for October is **Forty Autumns** by Nina Willner. A reminder email will be sent prior to the meeting.

Book Discussion – Evening

[Cheryl Cook](#) 860-408-1577

Join us for some lively discussion with new and old friends. We love to read and you are welcome to join us at any time. New suggestions for the reading list are always welcome. The evening book group meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted. To receive monthly updates with meeting dates, reading selections and locations, contact Cheryl Cook at cooks.home@comcast.net or 860-408-1577.

- October 3, 2017: **Mayflower** by Nathaniel Philbrick
- November 7, 2017: **Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore** by Robin Sloan
- December 5, 2017: **A Separate Peace** by John Knowles
- January 2, 2018: **The Education of Little Tree** by Forrest Carter and Rennard Strickland
- February 6, 2018: **You Don't Have to Say You Love Me** by Sherman Alexie
- March 6, 2018: **Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI** by David Grann
- April 3, 2018: **My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry** by Fredrik Backman
- May 1, 2018: **American Gods** by Neil Gaiman
- June 5, 2018: **Everybody's Son** by Thirty Umrigar
- July 10, 2018: **Radium Girls** by Kate Moore

- August 7, 2018: **A Piece of the World** by Christina Baker Kline

Bridge – Couples

[Lee Klippel](#) 860-673-7463

Couples Bridge meets on the third Saturday of the month. We meet in couples' homes and begin at 7:30 p.m. 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.

Bridge – Ladies Daytime

[Jane Fox](#) 860-658-0388

Ladies' daytime bridge meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 1:00 p.m. Join us as a regular or substitute player. All bridge levels are welcome. Players take turns hosting. Email announcements are sent to the group prior to each playing week about sign up and host location/information.

Bridge – Ladies Evening

[Elayne Cree](#) 860-651-7071

We meet the first and third Mondays of each month in members' homes. We had our first game of duplicate September 25th. You do not need to have played duplicate before to join in the fun. We'll help you every step of the way! Who knows? You might even win some money.

Games start at 7 pm and last two to 2½ hours. We have a registration binder at each meeting to sign up as player and hostess. I will send out reminder emails to those who have signed the book and send emails to everyone on the list if we need more players.

We are looking for hosts in November. We usually have two tables, sometimes three. If you need an extra table, let me know. I can bring both a table and chairs.

Questions? Contact Elayne 860-651-7071 or elayne@creaturecomforts.com

Bunko – Daytime

[Arlene Zappile](#) 860-408-9044

Daytime Bunko is a casual way to have some fun in the morning and still have the afternoon free. Bunko is a simple dice game that can be easily learned in minutes. We meet once a month at 9:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday at members' homes. After light refreshments, we enjoy several rounds of play and camaraderie. Join us as a regular or substitute player.

Bunko – Evening

[Randi Stamboulis](#) 860-217-1484

Our evening Bunko group usually meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm. It's an easy game to learn and requires no skill. Come join us! Contact Randi at rstamboulis@comcast.net if you are interested in joining our group.

Come for Cocktails

[Holly and Shaun Murphy](#) 860-651-6051

We are looking for co-chairs!!

If you enjoy socializing, then we are the group for you! We are a co-ed group that meets a few times a year (3-4) at our members' homes on Saturday evenings. We are not a "couples only group"! All are welcome!! We will schedule the gatherings around the "SNC Events" so as not to conflict. Please bring an appetizer or a dessert to share. Please bring your own beverages. Hosts may choose to have a theme for the evening and will provide paper goods and glasses. We look forward to seeing you!

Crafts Group

[Karen Pineau](#) 860-217-1311

The Crafts Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month. We decide on a project and take turns hosting. The projects are relatively easy and inexpensive to make. If you think you're not creative you may surprise yourself or you can always bring something else to work on. It's a nice group and we have fun visiting. This month on October 3rd the craft group will be making topiaries and it's not too late to join in! Materials are always conveniently located at Michaels. In November we'll be making coasters. Contact Karen at kmpineau@comcast.net if you are interested in joining us or want more information on supplies.

Dining Out Dinner

[Theresa Awad Roe](#) 860-408-9278

[Beth Payne](#) 860-352-2384

Will meet Oct. 6th at 7:00. Please note that is Friday night instead of the normal Saturday night.

We thought we would venture out beyond our normal area while the weather is still nice!

Restaurant:

Casa Mia at the Hawthorne
2421 Berlin Turnpike, Berlin, CT 06037, USA
860-357-2061

Please RSVP by Monday Oct. 2nd.

Discover New England

[Patty Howland](#) 860-470-7771

New England is filled with many scenic, historical and cultural attractions. Join fellow newcomers as we explore our surrounding area. Some ideas include: tours of local landmarks, ethnic food shopping trips, home or garden tour events, art exhibits, daytrips to the CT Shore or the Berkshires. We have compiled a list of "Places to Visit". If you would like a copy, or have ideas to add, email Patty Howland at pahowl@gmail.com

October events:

Sunday, October 1st 5-8:30 – CT RiverQuest Tree Swallow Sunset Cruise Spectacle, \$40 per person

Tuesday, October 3rd – Fall Trip to the Berkshires – Tour of Naumkeag cottage and gardens, followed by lunch at the historic Red Lion Inn, with optional stops in Great Barrington on the way home – \$16 plus Lunch
Details are in last month's newsletter. If you are interested, call Patty ASAP.

November event:

Plans are still being made for a trip in November and will be sent to those signed up for the group. Email Patty if you are interested in being on the list.

Happy Hour Social Club

[Shaun Murphy](#) 860-651-6051

We have tweaked the mission of the Men's Night Out. It has morphed into Happy Hour Social Club (not just for men!). We are now in pursuit of the perfect IPA, or some other craft brew delight, bourbon, vino, good conversation and food. We meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. (or earlier for those that can). Each month, Shaun will send a broadcast message to the group with details about that month's event. (This group is open to all). Slainte!

Humans for Humanity

[Brynn Brown](#) 860-301-9977

This is your opportunity to be the change you wish to see in the world. Humans for Humanity works on a variety of projects to help our fellow human beings. This may range from filling backpacks with food for those in need in our community or raising money to build a school halfway around the world. Please contact me with your ideas and we will work together to improve the human condition. We do not meet on a regular basis. Please contact me with your volunteer ideas and I will present them to the group. BrynnBrown@hotmail.com or 860-301-9977

Ladies' Lunch Bunch

[Alayna Clark](#) 860-217-0054
[Toni Robinson](#) 860-217-1915

The lunch Bunch enjoys meeting once a month at a different location for fun and good food. We usually meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month. Our next restaurant is Ocho Cafe in West Hartford (Bishops Corner) on October 19th at 11:30.

Keep watching for a new restaurant in November and we will be ending the year at Abigails!

Everyone is welcome. To join call or email Alayna or Toni!

Mah Jongg – Day

[Alayna Clark](#) 860-217-0054

The daytime Mah Jongg group meets every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. Players take turns hosting this casual "come if you can" group. An announcement will be sent to the group about who will be hosting each week.

Mah Jongg – Evening

[Holly Murphy](#) 860-651-6051

The evening Mah Jongg group meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. We alternate meeting at members' homes and new players are always welcome.

Movie Club

[Holly Murphy](#) 860-651-6051
[Gay Mulligan](#) 860-658-1706

Hello Movie Lovers!

We are a very casual Movie Group. Gay or Holly will forward the Hoyts Newsletter to the group as we receive it, which will give you the opportunity to view showtimes and watch the previews.

Senior Mondays (62 and over) are \$5. all day, with the exception of holidays or holiday eve.

Terrific Tuesdays are \$5. all day, also with the exception of holidays or holiday eve.

If you are interested in going to a particular show, and are looking for company, you may reply to the group. Please give: The movie name, the day, date and time you are planning to go. Anyone interested in going should reply **only** to the person looking for company. Please do **Not** "reply to all" if you are planning to join the person reaching out, and please do **Not** reply to anyone if you are not planning to go to the movies.

If you are a "Classic" movie fan (old movie buff), TCM, along with fathom events, is showing their old movies at select dates and times. Bloomfield, Hartford, and Torrington are soon hosting. The information can be found on the fathom events website. Go to the link: <http://www.fathomevents.com/event/2017-tcm-big-screen-classics>

Needlework

[Karen Goldschmidt](#) 860-461-1451
[Shirley Kucia](#) 860-693-4444

The Needlework Group is a congenial weekly gathering of beginner and experienced needlecrafters. We meet in a member's home or the library every Monday between 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM. Join us for part or all of that time to be inspired, learn from others, or share your knowledge. Members host the group at home or provide refreshments at the library once or possibly twice a year. A weekly email message tells members the location of the next meeting and gives driving directions. Please contact us if you have questions or want to add your name to our email list.

Paddle Tennis

Ladies Paddle Tennis: [Carolyn Brand](#) 860-408-1566 (Monday AM, Thursday AM)

Men's Paddle Tennis: [Dick Clark](#) 860-424-6697 (Saturday AM)

Mixed Doubles Paddle Tennis: [Camilla Thompson](#) 860-658-2038 (Sunday 4:30-6pm)

The new season begins soon. Paddle Tennis is similar to tennis, but played outdoors during the colder months on raised courts. In snowy conditions, the courts are heated to melt the wintry mix. We play November through March, using the courts at Simsbury Farms. The Couples group plays on Sunday evenings, the Ladies play on Monday and Thursday mornings, and the Men play on Saturday mornings. The Farms usually offers Paddle lessons. Please check with their office for more information – (860) 658-3836. If you would like to play paddle and have played other racket sports, please contact the activity chairs. The rosters tend to fill up by early October. Hope to see you on the courts!

Pinochle

[Judy Rabinowitz](#) 860-658-9262

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 Tuesday of each month, but call Judy to confirm the location.

PopUps

[Shari Cassutt](#) 505-670-4982

Farmington Valley Art Center in Avon can do a private Art pARTy for us on Friday afternoon October 20th. Cost would be \$35 and we would each walk away with a beautiful hand painted silk scarf. They will also provide a glass of wine and appetizers. I need a commitment from ten people. I currently have seven. RSVP ASAP so I can reserve the date.

Coming up is "Set to Celebrate" a fundraiser at The Town and Country Club on November 3rd and 4th. Last time SNC attended they went to lunch either before or after viewing the beautiful tablescapes. More info is available at the Connecticut Valley Garden Club's webpage. **I can't commit to that date so if this is going to happen I need a point person to arrange car pooling and make a lunch reservation.**

Finally we have two members interested in horseback riding. Anybody else? I'll put you in touch with each other and you can take it from there.

Theatre Group

[Patty Howland](#) 860-408-9485

Hello and welcome to the Simsbury Newcomers Theater Group! Please feel free to send me an email and join the group if you did not do so at signups.

Bring a partner/spouse/family member/guest or just come on your own! If we get a good number of people for a show (I think it's generally 10) we can try to buy tickets at a discounted price, but if that does not happen, we will just get our own tickets and try to sit near each other. We will plan to meet for dinner before the show if anyone would like, but if you'd rather just meet at the show that is fine too.

Here are some shows we will attend. Send me an email if you are interested.

Looking forward to hearing from you and enjoying a fun year of theater!

Evita – Friday, October 20, 7:30pm, University of Hartford, Hartt Theater Division, Dinner at Carbone's Kitchen in Bloomfield 5:30pm Tickets: \$20

Argentina's controversial First Lady is the subject of this dynamic musical masterpiece. Driven by ambition and blessed with charisma, Eva Peron was destined to leave a fascinating political legacy unique in the 20th century. Told through a compelling score that fuses haunting chorales with exuberant Latin, pop and jazz influences, Evita creates an arresting theatrical portrait as complex as the woman herself.

Constellations – Friday, January 26, Theaterworks, 233 Pearl Street, Hartford

One relationship. Infinite possibilities. This spellbinding journey imagines what happens when boy meets girl. And when boy meets girl again. And again. Defying the boundaries of the world we think we know, Nick Payne's Olivier and Drama League nominated hit is a charming and profound exploration of the universal truth in finding and losing love.

The Bodyguard – Wednesday, February 21, The Bushnell, 166 Capitol Avenue, Hartford

Former Secret Service agent turned bodyguard Frank Farmer is hired to protect superstar Rachel Marron from an unknown stalker. Each expects to be in charge; what they don't expect is to fall in love. A breathtakingly romantic thriller, The Bodyguard features a host of irresistible classics including "Queen of the Night," "So Emotional," "One Moment in Time," "Saving All My Love," "Run to You," "I Have Nothing," "I Wanna Dance with Somebody," and one of the biggest selling songs of all time – "I Will Always Love You." Starring Grammy nominee Deborah Cox.

Murder on the Orient Express – Friday, March 16, Hartford Stage, 50 Church Street, Hartford

The exotic Orient Express is about to go off the rails! With a locomotive full of suspects and an alibi for each one, it's the perfect mystery for detective Hercule Poirot, n'est-ce pas? Wax your mustache and hold on to your passport—adapted from Agatha Christie's masterpiece, two-time Tony-nominated playwright Ken Ludwig and multi-award-winning director Emily Mann will take you on a suspenseful, thrilling ride aboard the legendary Orient Express!

In the Heights – Friday, June 15, Playhouse on Park, 244 Park Road, West Hartford

From Lin-Manuel Miranda (Hamilton), In The Heights tells the universal story of a vibrant community in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood – a place where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. It's a community on the brink of change, full of hopes, dreams and pressures, where the biggest struggles can be deciding which traditions you take with you, and which ones you leave behind.

Walking Group

[Charlotte Ray](#) 860-651-4611

The Walking Group meets each weekday morning at 9 AM in the Park & Ride lot on the lower level behind CVS. We walk along the East Coast Greenway trail by Iron Horse Boulevard. We occasionally walk on other trails in the Farmington Valley area. You are welcome to join us on any morning that fits your schedule. If you will be walking with us for the first time, please let me know so I can be looking for you. Everyone is welcome on our annual October hike to Heublein Tower too. Please contact me if you are interested in going on this hike and haven't already told me. The Walking Group is a great way to get some good exercise while being entertained by enjoyable conversation!

Wellness Group

[Nita Okray](#) 860-906-4262

The Wellness group will be gathering formally four times a year to share ideas on health/wellness topics such as nutrition, meditation, tai chi, laughter yoga, weight management, and basically to explore health topics and to achieve balance at all levels. Also, the group will be sharing ideas on wellness and local events or articles on wellness.

Please let Nita Okray know if you know of local events related to health and wellness or if you would like to be part of the group at nrokray@gmail.com. Please feel free to suggest topics or speakers for an upcoming gathering or if you want to host as well!

So far we have had gatherings on topics of learning meditation and Improv to reduce stress. Please email Nita to let her know you are interested in the group.

Wine & Women

[Cheryl Sojkowski](#) 860-658-2199

[Sarah Nanzig](#) 860-651-9085

It was great to see so many of you at Sign-Ups in September. Looks like we have another great group this year filled with new and returning members. If you were not able to see us at Sign-Ups and would like to join us, please email Cheryl or Sarah with your name, telephone number, and current email information.

Wine & Women is a fun and casual group that meets once a month, at a member's home, usually on the third Thursday night of the month. Everyone brings a bottle of wine or other beverage of choice and an appetizer or dessert to share. It's fun to meet new members and reconnect with friends. We welcome members to join the group at any time during the year. And, of course, you don't have to drink wine to enjoy an evening out with this lively crowd!

Our first gathering of the season will be held on **Thursday, October 19th, 7:00 pm, at the home of Lisa Hugel**. *Please bring an appetizer or dessert, and a beverage to share with the group.* You will receive a reminder email the week before the event with the location details and you can RSVP by replying to the email. Please RSVP to Cheryl by October 17th.

SAVE THESE DATES: November 16, January 18, February 22, March 15, April 19, May 17, and June 8 (a Friday date for "Wine, Women and Guest"). Thanks to everyone who has volunteered to open their home to our group. We still need hostesses for April and June.

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