

SNC Newsletter – April 2018



President's Corner

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

Save the Date – Annual Spring Luncheon and Meeting, **Tuesday, May 15th.**

We're planning something different this year. Get ready for summer reading with our **Used Book Swap**. This is how it works: Bring some books, take some books – simple! You'll have plenty of time to browse the tables, visiting with friends along the way. Leftover books will be donated to the Simsbury Library for the annual Friends of the Library book sale.

Speaking of donating, we will also be **collecting new children's books** for the Reading Partners program of the Mandell JCC. These books will go to children in grades in K – 5 in low income schools throughout the Greater Hartford area.

Watch the mail for your invitation with time, date and place. Finally, we will be voting on bylaw changes at the luncheon. A copy of the new bylaws will be sent to you by email at least two weeks prior to the vote.

April Highlights

Scroll down to read full descriptions below. Remember that these and many other groups don't require that you have signed up for the email distribution list. They are open to all members, but please contact the Activity Group Chairperson to get the latest news.

Book Discussion Day – Lilac Girls

Book Discussion Evening – My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry

Dining Out – Casa Mia on the Green

Explore New England – Junior League of Hartford Show House

Healthy Eating Potluck Lunch – First meeting (our original kick-off was delayed due to snow)

Ladies Lunch Bunch – Cambridge Brew Pub

PopUps –Free introductory exercise class at Barre3

Single Ladies – Dating Online, Cooking for One, and Zentangle

Membership

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

We are 172 members strong. Welcome new member Ofelia Baldwin.

The Quick List was distributed via email. It includes updates regarding new members since the Directory was published as well as email addresses and revised information for current members. Please remember, the Directory and the Quick List are for the exclusive use of Club members and cannot be used for solicitation.

- Did you know that as a member you can sign up for as many activity groups as you want?
- Did you know that we have a “members only” Simsbury Newcomers Website and a Simsbury Newcomers Facebook Page?
- Check out all the opportunities your membership provides:
 - [Simsbury Newcomers Website](#)
 - [Simsbury Newcomers Facebook page](#)

Happy April Birthdays!

Joanne Alfieri
Isabelle Brienza
Pat Del Cioppo
Cathie Leonard
Kristin Pomeroy
Monica Prestianni
Stan Rothstein
Cheryl Sojkowski
Randi Stamboulis
Susan Sweeney
Arlene Zappile

[View the Newcomers Calendar](#)

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Community Events

[Alisa LaLiberte](#) 978-460-8103

Links to various **Simsbury organizations** and their activities: <https://www.simsbury-ct.gov/home/pages/clubs-and-organizations>

Simsbury Historical Society is hosting a **Royal Tea** to celebrate the Royal Wedding. More details can be found on their website: <http://www.simsburyhistory.org/news/upcoming.html> Also, anyone interested in volunteering for the event may contact Leke Scully at scullies@hotmail.com.

Email Alisa at alisaleelala@gmail.com if you know of any upcoming Community Events and we will add them to the newsletter.

Civic Concerns

[Alisa LaLiberte](#) 978-460-8103

Children's Book Collection – We will be collecting Children's Books for the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford Children's Reading Partners program at the Annual Luncheon. However, I will collect books anytime May 8th to the 15th (more details next month). Children's Reading Partners provides K-5th grade books to students, classrooms, and libraries in public schools in low-income communities across Greater Hartford.

Knitting for Cancer Patients – Mitzvah Knitters of Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation on Bushy Hill. They knit or crochet shawls that are donated to cancer patients. For more information: <https://fvjc.org/event/mitzvah-knitters-sisterhood-monthly-meeting-17/>

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 next book meeting will be on **April 20 at 9:30 a.m.** The book we will be reading for April is **Lilac Girls** by Martha Hall Kelly. On May 11 we will do a follow up day trip related to Lilac Girls to the Bellamy-Ferriday House and Gardens in Bethlehem, CT. 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.

- 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

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

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 Duplicate

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

We meet on the first and third Monday evenings at 7 pm in members' homes. Our group has people of varying levels of play. If you've never played duplicate before, not to worry: it's basically the same game with different scoring than rubber bridge. We'll help guide you through it. A week or so before each game, the hostess sends an email with the names of players who have signed up, asking for more players if needed to complete a table. Questions? Call or email 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 rlstamboulis@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

[Position open, click to email if interested](#)

The Crafts Group will not be meeting in April and is in search of a new chairperson. If you are interested in leading this group, please contact our Activity Group Board Member, Ellen Yazmer yaz342@comcast.net

Dining Out Dinner

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

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

We are welcoming the warmer weather by venturing out to Rocky Hill for dinner at **Casa Mia on the Green** for 7:30.

This venue provides music and dancing starting at 9:30 so we can digest before our drive back. Looking forward to seeing you then!

Date: April 14, 2018

Time: 7:30 pm

At: Casa Mia on the Green – an Italian Restaurant

600 Cold Spring Road

Rocky Hill, CT 06067

860-563-7000

Please RSVP by April 9th to Theresa or Beth.

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*

The Junior League of Hartford will be doing their **14th Show House** this year at 126 Waterside Lane, West Hartford, a 7,200 square foot waterfront estate. We have an opportunity to tour the home as a private group at a discounted rate on a day when it is not open to the public.

We are planning to go on: **Tuesday, May 1st at 2pm.**

We will do an optional lunch at a nearby restaurant prior to the tour.

If we have 10 people we are able to purchase tickets for \$20 and if we have 20 people it will be \$15. Regular tickets are \$25 prior to 4/27 and \$35 thereafter.

Show House is a major fundraiser for the Junior League of Hartford. Every three years, the Junior League takes over a notable home or estate in the Greater Hartford area and selects designers, local and regional, to make over the interior spaces and surrounding grounds, a process that takes months to accomplish. During the month of May, the public is invited to view the grand home that has been transformed both inside and out.

Here is more information on the home with several "before" photos...

<https://we-ha.com/sneak-peek-inside-west-hartford-home-chosen-junior-league-decorator-show-house-2/>

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!

Healthy Eating Potluck

[Tanya Stephens](#) 317-258-6620 [Shari Cassutt](#) 505-670-4982

Thursday, April 26th, 12:00 pm at Shari Cassutt's house

RSVP to Shari scassutt@yahoo.com

Interested in eating healthier and sampling healthy recipes? Come join us for a healthy eating potluck. This new activity group will meet once a month at members' houses to have a healthy lunch, exchange recipes and have a short round table discussion on how to eat healthy. Everyone welcome, just bring a healthy dish of your choice.

Your dish can be an appetizer, main course, soup, salad or dessert. Please type your ingredients and recipe on one piece of paper to be displayed with your recipe and bring your cell phone to take a photo of the recipe for your files. If you are drawing a blank on what to bring veggies and fruit are always a healthy addition – no recipe needed. Remember we are all trying new recipes and some might fail. That is ok.

It is understood that everyone has a different version of healthy.

Our topics of discussion will include:

- how to eat out healthy
- favorite grocery store healthy items
- how to make healthy eating changes
- and anything you want to talk about

Questions please call Shari Cassutt (860 988-0021) scassutt@yahoo.com or Tanya Stephens (317-258-6620). Shari will be sending emails please contact her to be added to this group.

Humans for Humanity

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

No activity this month.

Ladies' Lunch Bunch

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

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

The Lunch Bunch meets once a month on the 2nd Thursday of the month. If you enjoy eating, talking, and laughing then this is the group for you.

The next Lunch Bunch will meet on **Thursday, April 12th at Cambridge Brew Pub, 357 Salmon Brook St, Granby at 11:30.**

RSVP to Toni Robinson at tonirobinson22@gmail.com.

Hope to see you there!

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

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

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 Paddle season has ended, but some of the groups occasionally get together for informal games in spring and summer. If you would like to try the game or are interested in playing next season, please contact one of the above names. Most scheduled play occurs Monday and Thursday mornings. However, if there are any individuals or couples who are interested in the mixed doubles Sunday afternoon group, please contact us for more information. Don't forget to sign up in September! Looking forward to next season.

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

PopUps is the place for activities that don't have a group. It's also a place where you can communicate with other members of the email list about activities that you're doing and would like to invite others to join you. If you're interested in organizing an activity or joining our mailing list please get in touch with me.

Thursday, April 5th 11:15 – FREE introductory exercise class at **barre3** in the The Shoppes at Farmington Valley. This class is exclusively for Newcomers. Contact Barbara Troy bltroy@gmail.com to RSVP. Class size is limited.

For more info about the barre3 class see their website <https://barre3.com/studio-locations/farmington-valley>

Single Active Women

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

This new group is for SNC Single Women who want to get together and to have fun. Here are a few events for April. Future events include monthly game day, movies, day trips etc.

Seven Secrets to Find Love Online

Date: Thursday, April 5

Time: 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Place: Simsbury Public Library Program Rm

Cost: Free

RSVP: <http://www.simsburylibrary.info/programs-classes/> (click on calendar, find the event and RSVP)

Are you single and feel ready to date again? Do you wonder where to meet people or worry that dating is too different today? If you feel confused, nervous or disappointed with the process, this insightful program is for you. Dating Coach Ronnie Ann Ryan will share her seven secrets for finding love online.

Cooking for One with Chef Celeste

Date: Wednesday, April 11

Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Place: CT Kitchen & Bath Studio, 3 E Main St, Avon

Cost: \$35.00

Limit: 8 people

RSVP: Toni at Tonirobinson22@gmail.com

Zentangle

Date: Sunday, April 22

Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Place: Simsbury Public Library Program Rm 2

Cost: \$5.00 for supplies

RSVP: Toni at Tonirobinson22@gmail.com

SNC member, Marilyn Iezzi, will show us some Zentangle Patterns she's learned. The Zentangle Method is an easy to learn, fun and relaxing way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns.

Theatre Group

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

Please feel free to send Patty 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 (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 Patty an email if you are interested.

On Your Feet – Sunday, June 24th, 6:30 The Bushnell, 166 Capitol Avenue, Hartford
For Emilio and Gloria Estefan, Havana would always be home. But America—and music history—was their destiny. Discover the remarkable true story of how they made their American dream come true

In the Heights – Friday, July 13 (note date change), 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

We are ready to welcome spring and nicer weather! 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 (biking/walking trail) by Iron Horse Boulevard. 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. The Walking Group is a great way to get some good exercise while sharing 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!

We had a great session in February with Adele Caruso on the topic bringing more Joy and Health to your life! Another local community event that is free that I wanted to share: **Be Yoga in Avon** – is offering free yoga classes. Confirm on www.beyogainavon.com and for more details. I am also working on a nutrition/yoga speaker for an upcoming meeting.

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

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 next event will be held on **Thursday, April 19th, 7:00 pm**, at the home of Arline Croce. 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 Sarah by April 17th

SAVE THESE DATES: 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 a hostess for June.

Advertising

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We Welcome New Patients!

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