

SNC Newsletter – January 2018

President's Corner

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

It's time for the 2018 Blues Bash – the Motown Edition! By now you should have received your invitation for Saturday, January 20th 6:30 at the North House. RSVPs and checks must be sent to Dara Arends by January 8th. Many of us hate driving on these cold winter nights. Don't let that keep you home. Contact Holly Murphy (860-651-6051) who is coordinating ride sharing.

Last year a number of members asked how we were able to throw such a great party for such a reasonable price. The answer is "Your dues." Yes, your dues subsidize this memorable evening of great food and fun music, as well as our two other all club events – the Fall Potluck and the Spring Luncheon.

Speaking of the Spring Luncheon. We still don't have a VP for Programming. That means we need a committee to arrange our annual luncheon meeting. Call or email Shari Cassutt to volunteer.

Oh dear, and speaking of volunteering, we're looking for a few members to serve on the nominating committee for next year's board as well as people who might be willing to be nominated. Contact Barbara Troy at bltroy5@gmail.com if you can help out.

Finally, Toni Robinson has proposed a new activity group. Before the Board votes on this idea Toni wanted to see if there was interest. Here's her message:

Are you a single woman? Would you be interested in joining a new activity group just for single ladies? We can meet for coffee, see a movie, go to lunch or dinner, take a daytrip or meet at someone's home and just talk. It's not always easy being single by divorce, by choice or as a widow. We get it! Join us for conversations, laughs and probably food. If interested, please contact Toni at tonirobinson22@gmail.com

January Activity Club Highlights

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

Book Discussion, Daytime – *The Traitor's Wife* by Allison Pataki

Book Discussion, Evening – *The Education of Little Tree* by Forrest Carter and Rennard Strickland

Dining Out – The Elephant Trail, Avon

Discover New England – Tour of the Jackson Laboratory's new genomic medicine facility, Farmington

Lunch Bunch – Table 570, Simsbury

Pop Ups – Super Bowl Party (early February)

Membership

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

We are 169 members strong, including 35 new members.

Welcome to our newest member Linda Proctor.

As a member you are entitled 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](#)

You should have received the new 2017-2018 Member Directory. Please let me know if you did not receive your copy or if your information needs to be corrected or updated – tonirobinson22@gmail.com Also, please review your School Age Children information. Let me know if that has changed. Updates will be made for the Quick List.

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

Happy January Birthdays!

Jane Fox
Camille Gentile
Karen Goldschmidt
Jane Keiffer
Gail Langdell
Jesse Moldavsky
Toni Robinson
Theresa Roe
Patrice Sala
Sarah Schafer
Vivienne Semler
Alan Wilner

[View the Calendar](#)

Community Events

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

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

Civic Concerns

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

Nothing to share. Please check back next 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 next book meeting will be on January 19th at 9:30 a.m. The book we will be reading for January is **The Traitor's Wife** by Allison Pataki. 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.

- 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 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

[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. We're a friendly group who enjoy tea and visiting.

The Crafts Group will not be meeting in January, but will restart on February 6th. Look for an email or contact Karen for information at kmpineau@comcast.net.

Dining Out Dinner

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

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

Date: Saturday, January 13, 2017

Time: 7:00 pm

At: **The Elephant Trail**

85 East Main Street

Avon, CT

Please RSVP by Monday, January 8th to Theresa and/or Beth via email.

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*

January/February Event:

Tour of The Jackson Laboratory's new genomic medicine facility right here in Farmington, CT. The Jackson Laboratory is a nonprofit world-leading biomedical research institution working to advance mammalian genetics and human genomics research in aging, behavioral disorders, bioinformatics, cancer, complex traits, developmental disorders, diabetes and obesity, eye research, genetics and genomics, immune disorders, infectious diseases, neurodegenerative and neuromuscular diseases, reproductive disorders, resource development and skin disorders. This will be a very exciting and informative tour. Tours are limited to 12 persons. If we have great interest, multiple tours will be offered. Tentative dates are: Jan 25,30. Feb 1,8,20. If interested, email Patty at pahowl@gmail.com with your preferred dates. More details to follow.

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 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 January 11th at **Table 570** in Simsbury at 11:30. Questions call Alayna Clark at 860-217-0054.

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 has begun. 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 play paddle and would like to be added to the sub list, please contact the activity chairs. 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

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.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, February 4th** at the home of Shari Cassutt and Dick Mullen. Two big screens, lots of food and fun. You don't have to like football to come and have a great time!

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.

Constellations – Friday, January 26, Theaterworks, 233 Pearl Street, Hartford; Tickets on sale: Dec 11th. Email Patty at pahowl@gmail.com if you are interested.

The Bodyguard – Wednesday, February 21, The Bushnell, 166 Capitol Avenue, Hartford; 4 people have ordered tickets

Murder on the Orient Express – Friday, March 16, Hartford Stage, 50 Church Street, Hartford; Tickets available now: 2 people have ordered tickets. There are some \$25 Super-Saver tickets still available online. Since they are so reasonable right now, buy your own tickets and let Patty know if you'd like to go to dinner before the show.

On Your Feet – Sunday, June 24th, 6:30 The Bushnell, 166 Capitol Avenue, Hartford; Tickets available now. 2 people have ordered tickets.

In the Heights – Friday, July 13 (note date change), Playhouse on Park, 244 Park Road, West Hartford

Tickets available now. Prices are \$35 – \$50. Groups of 10+ get 10% discount; 20+ get 20% discount. Email Patty if you are interested and we can start the process.

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 (biking/walking trail) by Iron Horse Boulevard. We continue to walk during the cold weather so long as the walking trail is clear and not icy. 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 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

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, January 18th, 7:00 pm, at the home of Angela Wilson.** *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 January 16th.

SAVE THESE DATES: 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 a hostess for June.

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