



THE LINK

National Newcomers' Council of Canada Newsletter

NNCC EXECUTIVE 2007-2008
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Verna Dennis

March/April/May 2008

Reserve Saturday October 18th, 2008

for the National Newcomers Council of Canada Annual General Meeting to be held at the Hilton Garden Inn, in Oakville.

Friday nights gathering will be at the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame and Museum on the grounds of Glen Abbey Golf Club. The museum will be open while we are there and our guests will be able to wander through the many interesting displays. Special rates will be available at the Hilton Garden Inn for overnight. Billeting will also be available for overnight guests from out of town.

All members of Newcomers' Clubs and Alumnae are welcome at the Meeting not just executive members. **Several Workshops/Information Sessions are being planned.** **Presidents' Meeting & Insurance Information** - Verna Dennis
Newsletter Editors' Meeting - Jeanne Stoness

Workshops:

Coping with Change in our Clubs - Jeanne's excellent session from last year, repeated by popular demand.

How to Let Your Newcomers Know About Your Town - Beryl Keilty, Truro and Lise Marvell, Cornwall.

Publicizing Your Club - Evadne Benson, London

Fun Ideas For Meetings - A brain storming session, ideas presented will be published by Verna Dennis, Mississauga.

Come meet new friends from across Canada.

Registration forms and more information will be forwarded to clubs in June. Please pass this on to your members.

INTERNATIONAL GARAGE SALE

St Simon's Anglican Church

Parking Lot

at 1450 Litchfield Road, intersection of Trafalgar Road and White Oaks Road Oakville, Ontario

Saturday, May 31st

9 am - 1 pm

Items from around the world

Proceeds to go to fund Annual General Meeting

Come help Oakville.

President's Message

Our first Executive meeting was held in Burlington in the midst of a winter storm. Although there were only a few of us in attendance, the full executive was able to join us via Conference Calling. This system meant we discuss the business of the NNCC with all members, regardless of geographical distance, from Judy in Comox, B.C. (probably still in her pajamas) to Beryl in Truro, Nova Scotia, thereby receiving input re clubs across Canada. In February Jeanne joined us from her vacation in Florida. Conference calls allow us to have a quorum for every meeting. That was not the case in the past.

At this point in time the NNCC is financially sound, membership has increased and we are fortunate to have an excellent executive. The Website is very active and hopefully we have been able to help those in need of assistance.

Oakville is hosting the 2008 Annual General Meeting, Calgary the 2011 AGM. We are looking for sponsors for the 2009 and 2010 meetings. Hosting an AGM is a great Club project - a commitment unites, is great fun and creates excellent public relations for your city.

Consider serving on the Executive of the NNCC. Regardless of where you live, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, you would be able to attend all meetings. We are always in need of volunteers who are interested in working with others from various parts of Canada and help maintain the principles of the NNCC. Included in this edition of The Link is a form for this purpose. Information regarding the duties of the Executive is listed on our Website.

Yours in Friendship

Bernice McNulty

Past President

What are the benefits of belonging to National Council? I know I'm 'preaching to the choir' but please share this information with your Executive Board and your members. The National has sixty three member Clubs, from Newfoundland to British Columbia, with club sizes ranging from five members in Stoney Creek, ON to over 600 in Calgary, AL.

We offer:

- Referrals to our member clubs for a friendly contact for anyone moving to a new area.
- Advice for starting and publicizing a club for people who may be moving to a new area where there is no club.
- An opportunity for all your members to attend and/or host our Annual General Meeting held in the fall at a different member town each year. For example: 04 in Truro, NS, 07 in London, ON, 08 will be Oakville, and 11 will be Calgary for their 50th Anniversary Celebration.
- Information on Club interests, how to resolve differences in the spirit of friendship, recipes, themes and speakers for meetings, decorations, etc.
- By-laws examples, how to run a business meeting and fund raising ideas.

We share ideas and information

- in our quarterly newsletter "The LINK",
- at our AGM,
- on our web-site www.newcomersclubcanada.com,
- by personal contact with our volunteer board members.

It is great to know that we have kind friendly contacts across Canada. I enjoyed serving on the National Board, Thanks for your generous spirit and support.

Verna Dennis

Treasurer/Registrar Message

Spring is finally here and that means it is time to send in your membership renewal forms that were emailed out to each executive in the last few weeks. It is also time to start planning your trip to the AGM in Oakville this fall. The registration forms will be sent out in the next few weeks giving everyone lots of time to make their arrangements. As in past years everyone attending goes away with a new found enthusiasm for newcomers and more understanding of what it stands for. Please take a few moments to fill in your registration when received and perhaps return it before everyone's thoughts turn to hot summer days.

Sue Lotherington

Central Liaison

Finally I got the correct paperwork to the group in Stratford interested in starting a chapter. They might consider making it part of their by-laws to allow the performers who come for the theatre season to take out temporary memberships so they can meet "real" Stratfordians.

I have joined a program here in London called Ambassador London. The purpose is to promote the city and it seemed like a good fit. I am always taking information to people moving into our neighbourhood and more recently shared information with a clerk packing my purchase in a store.

The Oakville organizer has been in touch to get information on planning the AGM. I referred her to last year's executive as I had no part in planning the conference last year.

In friendship,
Evadne Benson

Atlantic Liaison

Our Truro and Area Newcomers' Club and Alumnae seem to keep busy with many activities- Pot Luck, Out to Lunch (Guess we like to eat!) At present our Alumnae group are busy arranging our Annual Wine & Cheese, Dessert Night to welcome the 2008 Graduates from Newcomers.

I truly enjoy my role as Eastern Liaison and am looking forward to the Annual Meeting in Oakville. I was there for the Meeting in 1998 and they made us very welcome in their city. I once lived in Oakville. I hope to have some Eastern Newcomers coming too. You never know when you meet 'old friends'. Last year I met someone who lived in my old subdivision.

Beryl Keilty

Alumnae Liaison

Special projects are an excellent way of involving members. Our Alumnae group creates finger puppets for Haiti. These puppets will be used to entice little children to come to school. They will be distributed by a sister of one of our members. She has worked in Haiti for 10 years and is 80 years young but still going strong. This has been a very enjoyable project - a great coming together of our group. We meet at 10:39 - knit - have pot luck lunch at 12:30 - knit to 3:30. If you would like more information contact Lise Marvell

Lise Marvell

An effort made for the happiness of others lifts us above ourselves.

Lydia M Child

Member At Large

I would just like to say. . . How much I'm enjoying the experience of being part of National. I remember when I first joined Newcomers and thinking what is this National that we send dues to each year . . . what do they do? After attending the Conference in Truro and London and presently being on The National Executive as Member-at-Large I have a totally different perspective. I feel like I'm in Newcomer's again with all these ladies representing different parts of Canada. It is really quite a unique experience.

Sharon Smith

Newsletter Editor's Note:

I'm so blessed. Nancy Leger of the Brockville Newcomers has volunteered to help read all your newsletters and glean information for the LINK. Suzanne Brett Walsh of Calgary is in training to take over as Newsletter Editor next year. Isn't that wonderful! Thanks ladies for making my life easier. I hope you noticed in the AGM evaluations that the LINK is more widely known than when I took over this job two years ago. The emailing of the newsletter has reduced the pressures on our finances. Thank you for making the effort to pass the LINK on to your members. Most clubs now forward it to their individual members by email.

Thanks

Jeanne Stoness

Why does it take a minute to say hello but forever to say goodbye

Web Manager

Please have a look at our web site at www.newcomersclubcanada.com. And send any updates or pictures to friends@newcomersclubcanada.com. (Please send some pictures ;-)

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Your Atlantic, Central and Western Liaison Council Members Need Your Help

They are looking for Newcomer Clubs in their areas that do not belong to the National Newcomers' Council of Canada. We are trying to increase our membership. A special pamphlet explaining the role of the National Council has been developed and the liaison members of council have committed to approaching these clubs. Contact Beryl Keilty for the Atlantic Region, Evadne Judy for Ontario or Quebec and Judy Francis for the West.

Truro Daily News

Dec. 7, 2007

Come from away? Come on in

It can be tough moving to a new community, knowing no one and being unsure where to turn for friendship.

Pamela Paul welcomes a half-dozen women to a coffee klatch at Sunnyside Mall in Bedford for chatter and camaraderie.

They all have one desire to be welcomed as friends by people they don't know and to establish longer term social relationships for themselves and their families. After seeing a notice in a Welcome Wagon package, Shelburne raised Pamela joined a chapter near Edmonton, Alberta. "I was interested in playing canasta and found others with a same desire. We'd go from home to home as a bunch of new friends."

Pamela returned home to found Newcomers in Lower Sackville.

"We get all ages and career paths, retired people, singles, newlyweds, young families, people from their late 20's to much older." Says Pamela. "It all depends on what people require in friendship. We've begun to welcome men into our group, too, other than spouses and significant others joining us for social events.

Penny Lee from Victoria, B.C. says "I was afraid they'd all be over 80 but found more in my age group. I'm making connections. Sometimes after meetings, we might go to lunch, or shopping.

Betty Macdonald from Sydney, N.S. says "I was working at home and it was tough to meet people. I found this chapter on the website and joined two months ago. It's really widened my circle."

Jean Herald originally from Fall River near Manchester, England says "I've met new people and am finding more about Halifax

and the province than I ever knew. It's a good organization for people who don't know anyone, and who are in the same predicament as you. Everyone is looking to have a social life and new friends.

Bathurst, N.B. native, Bonnie Botham saw a newspaper announcement 18 months ago and showed up to a monthly meeting. "It's very much what I hoped for. I've made lots of friends who we now see socially. I was alone. My kids had friends but I didn't. Newcomers' has certainly helped. People here are wary of non-Maritimers, and I can say that as a former Maritimer. Newcomer Club is something for people from outside who have lots in common. I've learned that older people can be lots of fun, too. Look at Sheena. She's so vivacious and full of energy.

Submitted by Beryl Keilty

Has your club been featured in the local newspaper? Send us the article so we can share with other clubs.

IN MEMORIAM

Susan Alexander, a past president of the NNCC, died November 12, 2007 at McMaster University Hospital.

Susan was very active in the Burlington Newcomers Alumni Club. She served as President, Grad Mag Editor, and was convenor of many groups over the years. Her service to the NNCC and the Burlington Alumni Club is appreciated by all.

Please send us information about members of your club that you wish us to remember. Tell us about important contributions, special honorariums, etc.

Cornwall Ontario Newcomers Club Host of 2009 Annual General Meeting

Cornwall is located on the shores of the St Lawrence River about 40 km. west of the Quebec/Ontario border. It became a city in 1945. It combines small town warmth and hospitality with big city services and facilities. Close to half of the 47,000 population is fluently bilingual in both official languages, making it one of the most bilingual cities in Canada. It has a strong Celtic background and there are many Celtic events throughout the year. The Heritage Murals Project illustrates with 3 murals located in the old downtown area and 9 more throughout the city. A walk in Lamouroux Park along the waterfront will help you to trace Cornwall's history through plaques along the 4 km bikepath. Many historical sites of interest are located minutes outside of the city. A few are Upper Canada Village in Morrisburg, St Raphael's Ruins, Simon Fraser's burial site and the Lost Villages Museum. The Lost Villages Museum tells the story of the building of the St Lawrence Seaway which resulted in the moving or flooding of many homes, churches, schools and graveyards. There is shopping on the main street, in Le village and in the more modern Cornwall Square. Several large chain motels and many fine restaurants are available. Cornwall is a quick drive across the bridge to Massena N.Y. and a little more than an hour from Montreal and Ottawa. It can enjoy the proximity to large centers without big city costs and problems. Cornwall is a good community to raise a family and is also becoming a popular city for retirees. Cornwall has much to offer its citizens and welcomes visitors to come and enjoy its many attractions.

Some Different Interest Groups

A meeting activity, to help the community and raising funds

In January the Newcomers are asked to collect any unwanted books, and bring them for a book exchange at the January Meeting, Bring as many as you like, and

hopefully you will find a book or two to take home. Any extra books will be collected for donation to Sage House women's shelter.
Vancouver

LIVING ROOM SINGERS

FREQUENCY: 2nd & 4th Mondays of month, except for statutory holidays

DESCRIPTION: This is an informal group of women who gather for one hour of singing, twice monthly. No voice training is required, just a love of music, especially the real oldies. Nanaimo

ART ENTHUSIASTS:

Our first visit with an artist this year will be on Wednesday, November 21 at 10.30 at the studio of Judi Peddler (317 Torrence Rd in Comox). Judi is a wonderful watercolourist who welcomes visitors to her studio. Please sign up and perhaps bring a friend who is interested in seeing Judi's work. We ask that each participant give \$3.00 toward the cost of a gift certificate of appreciation to the artist. Please pay when you sign up. Thanks for your interest in this activity.
Comox Valley Newcomers

Attracting younger members

Betwixt and Betweeners is a group within the Newcomer's club that is for people who are still working or perhaps have children at home or of college age. We can't meet on Monday mornings, for example, for a bike ride or during the day for other activities. We have our own sign up sheets for activities (such as a restaurant club, film festival, girls night, sports night) that all take place after work and usually on the weekends.

Comox Valley Newcomers

Under 35s

This group is for women under age 35. We try to meet twice a month, usually on weekends. Activities planned for this group will vary, depending on the interests of its members. Some events that we have planned in the next couple of months include: 9 hole golf, potluck, drinks and wings night, a camp fire, Aussie Rules, and attending the Calgary Women's Show.

Calgary Newcomers

What Are Other Clubs Reading?

Reading ahead...here are our selections for the rest of the year.

The Girls (February) Lori Lansens

The Alchemist (March) Paulo Coelho

Last Town on Earth (April) Thomas Mullen

The Binding Chair (May) Kathryn Harrison

Snow Flower & the Secret Fan (June)

Lisa See Elise

London Newcomers

A Leaf in the Bitter Wind life in Maoist China

Sweetness in the Belly with a story set in Ethiopia Camilla Gibb

The Uncommon Reader by Alexander Bennet
Barrie Newcomers

N is for Noose" Sue Grafton

Peachland

The Road Cormac McCarthy

Lullabies for little Criminals Heather O'Neil

St Johns

In Pursuit Of The Arts

MUSIC MAKERS

Do you sing and/or play a music instrument?

If so, you may wish to join Music Makers . . .

. . . a group of musicians of all ability levels from Newcomers and Alumnae who create music together. We meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month in each other's

homes. Our aim is to encourage one another to play our musical selections in a supportive environment and have fun creating music together (solo, duets, ensembles) - anything goes! just really getting underway, and so rely heavily on members taking turns hostessing instead of small group conveners.

Comox Newcomers

How to entice members to take an executive position

Because several of us are graduating into Alumni, there are many positions open on the executive. None of these positions are "large" or "overwhelming". The work is meant to be divided evenly and simply so that ultimately everyone has opportunity to be involved and to have fun at the same time. Some of my closest friends from this club have come through the executive because of our time spent together. AND . . . I know I've said this many times before, but I want to affirm for you that being part of the executive is an awesome experience - these are really great women to spend time with and use our brains and creativity together. By filling all of these positions early, this year's executive is in a better position to help set up next year's executive and convenors for success. Besides all of that . . . you get to come to a special PARTY!

Lethbridge

Newcomers' was one of the best things to be associated with in Guelph, with a group of such nice people.

Annette

Writers' Group

Writers' Group has been formed and has met twice. Meetings take place on the third Monday of the month This is a non-critiquing writing group. Members present pieces they have written to share with the group which initiates some interesting discussions. Some short writing exercises are also undertaken. A number of the members have been published. For example, if you click on the following link, you will find a story by our convenor, which was recently published in Home Makers Magazine.

<http://www.homemakers.com/homemakers/client/en/Home/DetailNews.asp?idNews=240168&bSearch=True>

Guelph Newcomers

A New Member

I see you at the meetings

But you never say "Hello"

You're busy all the time you're there

With those you already know.

I sit amongst the people

Yet I'm a lonesome gal or guy

The "new members" are all strangers too,

And the "old timers" pass us by.

But, darn it, you people asked me in,

And you talked of fellowship,

You could just step across the room,

But you never make the trip.

Why can't you nod and say "Hello"

Or stop to shake my hand?

Then go and sit amongst your friends.

Now that I'd understand.

I'll be at our next meeting,

Perhaps a nice evening to spend;

Do you think you could introduce yourself?

I want to be your friend.

- Author Unknown

<http://newcomers-stjohns.blogspot.com>.

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www.newcomers.eboard.com

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www.oakvillnewcomersclub.com

Sarnia, ON

<http://www.sarnia.com/newcomers>

Toronto, ON

www.TorontoNewcomersClub.ca

Regina, SA

www.reginanewcomersclub.com

Calgary, AB

<http://calgarynewcomers.com>

Lethbridge, AB

<http://www.lethbridgenewcomers.com>

Red Deer

www.freewebs.com/rdnewcomers

National Newcomers' Council

<http://www.newcomersclubcanada.com/>

WEB SITES

St Johns, Nfld



NATIONAL NEWCOMERS' COUNCIL OF CANADA

If you would be willing to volunteer to help the National Council as a member of our Executive Board we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please complete this form and forward it to any member of the Board or just drop us a friendly note or a phone call.

Name _____
Address _____
City/Prov/Postal Code _____
Area Code/Phone _____
Email _____
Club Name _____

The following board positions come up for renewal yearly:

- Registrar/Treasurer
- Secretary/Publicity
- Newsletter Editor (every two years)
- Alumnae Representative
- Liaison Officers- Western, Central or Eastern
- Member-At-Large
- Website Coordinator

For more information on the duties please see our web-site; www.newcomersclubcanada.com, Click on Documents, then on National Exec Officers' Duties.

Board Position/s of Interest to you:

Please list your areas of expertise and interests below.

Executive/Committee Positions Served (not required to join the Board, new executive most welcome) and/or current interests:

TRIED & TRUE RECIPES

Zen Tea Cocktail

This is a refreshing tasty cocktail.

2 oz. premium vodka
3 oz. brewed green tea
(add sugar & lemon to taste)
Chopped ginger

1. Mix all ingredients with ice in a shaker.
2. Serve chilled in a martini glass.
3. Garnish as desired.

Cranberry Jam

Great with roast turkey

350 g. cranberries (fresh or frozen)
350 g. caster sugar
(grind granulated sugar in food processor)

1. Put a film of water in the bottom of a large saucepan.
2. Add the cranberries and sugar.
3. Stir over a low heat to dissolve the sugar.
4. Turn up the heat and boil the pan rapidly until setting point is reached, approximately 7 minutes.
5. Pour the jam into a sterilized 350ml. jar & seal immediately.

Burlington Newcomers

Sugar and Spice Nuts

You could also add dried fruit such as cranberries, cherries or blueberries to this recipe.

4 1/2 cups mixed unsalted nuts, (1 1/2 lb.)
2 cups granulated sugar
grated zest of 1 orange
1 cup water
2 cups finely chopped walnuts
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1/2 tsp. nutmeg
1/4 tsp. ground cloves

1. Cook sugar nuts, and spices in water until mixture starts to look syrupy (235°F)
2. Pour nuts onto buttered baking sheet
3. Separate using two forks.
4. Cool. Store in airtight container in refrigerator or freezer

Jessie

Brampton Newcomers

Brandy Baked Brie

You could also add dried fruit such as cranberries, cherries or blueberries to this recipe.

1 1/2 cups brown sugar, packed
1/2 cups brandy
2 cups finely chopped walnuts
1 (2-pound) wheel of brie
Assorted crackers

1. In a small mixing bowl, combine brown sugar and brandy.
2. Stir in walnuts.
3. Place brie on top of oven-proof serving platter and spoon walnut mixture over top, covering completely.
4. Wrap platter in plastic and refrigerate for at least two hours.
5. Preheat oven to 400°F (205°C).
6. Remove brie from refrigerator, unwrap and discard plastic. Bake for 10 to 15 minutes or until cheese begins to melt.
7. Cool slightly and serve with crackers.

From Burlington Grads newsletter

Creamy Lime Salad

A favourite at pot luck dinners.

1 pkg. low calorie lime flavoured gelatine
1/2 cup low fat cream cheese, softened
3/4 cup boiling water (use part of pineapple juice)
3/4 cup cold water
10 oz. unsweetened crushed pineapple
1 cup frozen whipped topping (thawed)

1. Dissolve gelatine in boiling water.
2. Cool but don't thicken.
3. Beat cream cheese and cold water in mixing bowl until smooth.
4. Add cooled gelatine and beat until smooth.
5. Stir in pineapple.
6. Chill until syrupy.
7. Add whipped topping.
8. Pour into 4 cup mold

Makes 3 1/2 cups

Anne Dean

Brampton Newcomers

