



# THE LINK

National Newcomers' Council of Canada Newsletter

**NNCC EXECUTIVE 2006-2007**  
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Verna Dennis

September 2008

## The 31<sup>th</sup> General Meeting in Oakville Is Something You Won't Want to Miss

To be held on Oct. 18, 2008. Registration is limited to the first 80 who apply so get your registrations in promptly.

**NETWORK** with Club Presidents at the President's Meeting and find out about insurance from Verna Dennis  
**NETWORK** with Newsletter Editors at the Newsletter Editor Meeting. Come meet Suzanne our new newsletter editor and find out how you can help her with the LINK.

### GAIN NEW IDEAS for your Club

Verna Dennis            Fun Topics for Meetings  
Jeanne Stoness        Implementing Change  
Beryl Keilty / Lise Marvel    Letting Newcomers Know About Your Town.

Evadne Benson        Publicizing Your Club  
Sessions will be an hour in length. Choose your session on your registration form

The Oakville Clubs will be entertaining registrants Friday night at the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame and Museum on the grounds of Glen Abbey Golf Club. The museum will be open so we 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.

After lunch there will be a presentation on Erchless Estate a four-acre home and gardens on the shores of Lake Ontario. Originally the home of the Chisholms, it reflects Oakville's history and founding family.

The 'Painters Place' will give current trends in home interior design using colour.

Don't forget there are door prizes as well.

## President's Message

The upcoming AGM will mark two years that I have served on this Executive. The time has flown by so quickly that I must have been having fun. Sincerely, I really have enjoyed my time with the NNCC. I am deeply impressed by the enthusiasm of the executive members of Newcomer clubs across Canada. It is through their efforts and dedication that has enabled strangers moving to a new city or town find instant friendship.

By joining a Newcomers club you have met interesting women from all over the world, had someone with whom to play bridge, golf, hike, stitch & chat, enjoy lunches/dinners, book clubs, etc. The list is endless. All this was made possible because a few dedicated women take on the responsible of getting things done. They are the members of your executive. They are the ones that make it possible for you to carry on your friendships and activities. For their efforts we are truly thankful.

I urge you to get involved. Offer to serve on the Executive, locally or nationally or convene an activity. By making a commitment you'll feel good just knowing you are helping to keep this wonderful organization of newcomers alive and well. The time will fly and don't be surprised when you find that you too are having fun.

Sincerely,  
Bernice

**CALGARY AGM IN 2011**

**The first Newcomers Club in Canada was established in 1961 in Calgary by Kay Dantz. To celebrate the 50th ANNIVERSARY of NEWCOMERS CLUB, the National Newcomers Club of Canada AGM is being held in Calgary on September 16-18, 2011. The Newcomers and Nugrads Clubs of Calgary are hosting the National Newcomers Conference to celebrate our 'big 5-0' birthday. Yes, it sounds far away but planning has begun!**

We are asking for Newcomers Clubs from across Canada to help celebrate by putting together a "time capsule" or scrapbook that reflects your organization. We plan to showcase the memories and memorabilia of each club at this most auspicious event. And while three years sounds long, we know that it will take some time to accomplish this task. There are no rules or requirements. We are leaving the design and execution to your imaginations and amazing talents.

Please contact Suzanne Brett Welsh, Chair of the 2011 Jubilee Organizing Committee if you have any questions or suggestions for this event ([dswelsh@shaw.ca](mailto:dswelsh@shaw.ca) or 403-836-5631).

Editor's note

Wouldn't it be wonderful if all 65 clubs across Canada were to send their memories? I like the idea that we can do whatever however we want. Let's get working on this. Calgary will be the Beijing for the AGM as China was for the Olympics.

**Featured Club, Burlington, Ontario**

Nestled on the shore of beautiful Lake Ontario in the shadow of the Niagara Escarpment, Burlington offers everything you need to experience the perfect get-away. Our intriguing mix of old and new, nature and culture, leisure and activity will energize and inspire you. Whether day-tripping, meeting for business or pleasure, or as part of a longer visit to southern Ontario, plan to indulge yourself here - across four seasons and however your spirit moves you.

Burlington makes the most of its character, embracing the past and building on it. A stroll around the historic homes in Downtown Burlington and through museums honouring those who made the community what it is today makes a relaxing and charming addition to any itinerary.

Nature will beckon to you in Burlington. Lake Ontario presents an ever-changing waterfront, the unique eco-systems of the Niagara Escarpment await exploration, and the flowers and plants at the beautiful Royal Botanical Gardens will refresh you.

Burlington is a progressive community and offers a vibrant cultural life. Explore new worlds of art, music and theatre here. Join us for year-round special events, such as the Sound of Music Festival, Jazz n'Blues Festival, Children's Festival, Ribfest, Winter Carnival and the Festival of Lights, to name a few.

This diversity of Attractions and activities is matched by a wide array of services. Our restaurants offer everything from family fare to sophisticated fine dining. Shoppers will find unique stores, shopping malls and big box outlets to browse through. Accommodations to suit all budgets and tastes are available, from cozy

B&B's to full service hotels and conference centers.

Burlington has very active clubs with 126 members in Newcomers and 410 in Alumni. Newcomers was established there in 1926 so it has deep roots.

**Check out our website**

**National Newcomers' Council**

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

Verna has been working hard to keep it relevant and up-to-date. She has organized it so you can maneuver easily through the site. Thanks Verna. If you have information or photos you would like to share contact Verna.

**[friends@newcomersclubcanada.com](mailto:friends@newcomersclubcanada.com)**

**News Flash**

**Your executive** have been trying to track down any Newcomer Clubs in Canada who do not belong to the National Newcomers Council of Canada. When you receive your register, if you know of any Newcomers clubs that are not listed, please contact an executive so they can invite these clubs to join.

*\* **Treat your friends as you do your pictures, and place them in their best light.***

*Jennie Jerome Churchill*

**IDEAS FOR MEETINGS**

An informal carousel or information session about our clubs during the social hour of a dinner meeting. One representative from each of the clubs would be available to answer all of your questions about their group.

London Newcomers

**IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES**

**GARDEN TOURS**

Mike and Jan Weir's home is on Nanaimo's Heritage Register, with an established yard. There are a number of garden "rooms" ranging from Japanese, full shade, full sun, herb, and woodland. Since the last Newcomers' tour in 2006, a native garden and a year-round vegetable garden have been added.

Nanaimo

### **Pie n' Paint in Wascana!**

What is better than crafting in the summer? Crafting outdoors of course! Join us in Wascana Park on Saturday June 14 from 1-3pm for a directed or non-directed art session for acrylic on canvas/ or water color on paperstock. We will be capturing the heart of Regina's summer in our very own art and celebrating with a pie potluck and lemonade picnic.

Regina

### **What About Summer Activities**

Hey everyone,

We are having so much fun with the spring league slow-pitch, that we're thinking of playing in the summer league. Everyone is welcome to play, husbands, partners, friends, etc. It runs from July to Sept. They are deciding b/t Wed. night and Sunday. If you have a preference let me know and I can pass that on to them. Let me know if you want to play asap.

For the adventuresome

Waterloo Newcomers went Tubing at Elora Gorge Saturday, June 14 at 8.00 a.m. Notice the time. Early risers.

Barrie Newcomers walked through the Ardagh Bluffs Forest May 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

### **Meditation Group**

This is an invitation for all you spiritually minded ladies to escape the daily stresses

and strains, to forget about the housework and shopping and just switch off from the outside world for a short while! Sound tempting?? Why not join us for a relaxed morning of friendly conversation and a peaceful guided meditation!

Oakville

### **Mahjongg**

Mahjongg is an easy-to-learn game that's taking the country by storm. Think of an Oriental version of tile rummy.

This will make you want to move to BC  
HIKING/SKIING/SNOWSHOEING  
Newcomers Group

Reminder for the August Hike

The hike will be this Friday, August 22nd. We will hike up Black Mountain to the view at Eagle Bluff (this hike is the one that was originally scheduled for July but was postponed). This is a difficult hike, starting at Cypress Mountain ski field and hiking to the top of the Eagle Chair lift and then level through some woods. Really worth it for the view (better views than at Grouse Mountain)! I am very slow going uphill.

Take a snack/lunch, a water bottle, and appropriate clothing if it looks like rain. We will meet at 9:30 at the car park at the entrance to Cypress Mountain ski field. It would be a good idea to car pool as it will probably be pay parking.

If you need more directions, give me a call

Also, please let me know if you're coming so that we know to wait for you.

See you then,

### **From Lethbridge**

**BURMIS TREE**



**Burmis Tree in Crowsnest Pass--Photo: GC**

"As tourists enter the Crowsnest Pass from the east, the first major pioneer landmarks they will see are the famous Burmis Tree on the north side of Highway 3 . . . Unfortunately, the Burmis Tree is the only point of interest left of the once prosperous coal mining and lumber town of Burmis, which is now comprised of just a small collection of recreational properties. The unique and starkly shaped tree, named after the community, is Limber pine that is more than 300 years old. The town's name came from combining the names of two early settlers, Robert H. Burns and Jack Kemmis."

<http://www.ghosttownpix.com/alberta/burmis.html>

*In the end, it's not the years in your life that count.*

*It's the life in your years.*

*Abraham Lincoln*

"You don't have to be a "person of influence" to be influential. In fact, the most influential people in my life are probably not even aware of the things they've taught me."

 [Scott Adams quote](#)

## **Ideas for Newsletters**

**Halifax**

**Reminder:**

To protect the privacy of our members, we would ask that you please shred hard copies of your newsletters, membership lists, calendars, etc..

### **St. Catherines**

Publishes reminders about local events to let members know what is going on in the community.

### **Did You Know**

St Johns May Newsletter

Seniors adhering to the local traditions try to collect May water obtained by melting snow that falls in May, used for medicinal purposes; people will try anything to make the notion of actual snow fall in May more tolerable. Then it went on to say Sorry, unless it can restore eye sight to the blind it will not do as an excuse for winter's overstaying its welcome. Let us hope that if there is any more snow in May, it is but a light dusting not requiring any more muscle power, or worse yet the use of a snow blower, and we will be able to sweep the snow away with a broom In any case, be very careful and use your old broom. Under no circumstances are you to buy a new broom in May, to find out why go to your usual source quoted below, or wait for the June newsletter.

The suspense is killing me. I didn't get the June newsletter.

*"Nobody can go back  
and start a new beginning,  
but  
anyone can start today  
and make a new ending."*

*Maria Robinson*

### **Peterborough**

#### **Members' Highlights:**

Background information is given. The challenge is to identify the member.

If you've been reading this section in the February and March newsletters, your challenge is to guess the member's name, given the background information. By now, you've figured out that the name has been tucked in at the bottom of the list. Well, it's not as easy this time - the name is in numerical code.

A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, E=5, F=6, G=7,  
H=8, I=9, J=10, K=11, L=12, M=13,  
N=14, O=15, P=16, Q=17, R=18, S=19,  
T=20, U=21, V=22, W=23, X=24, Y=25,  
Z=26.

i.e.

*Our highlighted member* has been married 51 years, and is proud of their daughter and son, three grandsons and a sister-in-law who is one of Canada's leading authors. This gal attended Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio. She was a former flight attendant with American Airlines, commonly known long ago as an airline stewardess on propeller operated planes only! A homemaker for 20 years, she was also administrator and manager, Department of Surgery, Sick Kids Hospital, Toronto for 20 years. Her favourite hobbies/activities are reading, swimming, cooking, entertaining, gardening, travel, bridge (recent revival), and curling (new player). Their favourite place is their year-round cottage in the Kawartha Highlands and their favourite trip was a visit to Tuscany, Italy last year for one month - they loved the people, scenery and, of course, the wine. A former Brown Owl volunteer and church youth group leader, she is presently involved in the "Out of the Cold" brunch program at St. John's Anglican Church. She claims her future goal is staying alive! Who is this member?

4-15-14-14-1 21-18-17-8-1-18-20

or

We met at a dance - a high school dance. At that time I was Master of Ceremonies, and she was dancing with a chap from Halifax. They won a spot dance. The winners had to come to the stage and do a little something to earn a prize. As Master of Ceremonies, I was the one telling the winners what to do - so I made them sing a song. I couldn't keep my eyes off this beautiful young lady. Who is she? I hadn't seen her before. So, I asked her to dance. I tried to take her home but she said NO - she was with someone. She rejected me! In Nova Scotia we're British patriots, so the next week we had a St. George's Day dance at the school. I invited her and she said YES. Since 1948, with a short break, we've been going together ever since. We got engaged and married in 1955.

*Who are these romantics?*

### **Save the Environment**

Because of the high price of gasoline and the need to be more aware of our fragile environment, we need to be carpooling as much as possible. I know many ladies do this already, but here's another idea. As we are all aware, sometimes going alone to dinner, a play or any other form of entertainment can be a little daunting. So if you are thinking about going to our monthly dinner, here is a thought. You have all met a lady or two at a Newcomers function; why not give one or two of those gals a call and ask them if they would like to go to the dinner with you. Many of us live alone, and you can get into a kind of funk. Just hearing from someone else that they would love you to join them can be the little push they need. Try it! There is more fun in numbers, and you just might be brightening someone's day and have a good time and a good dinner as well!

From President's Message London

## Fundraiser?

Guelph Newcomers had *its Third Annual Perennial Plant* exchange on Friday, May 16, Rain or shine. Parking on street is allowed. Bring as many plants as you like and take away the same number.

If you don't have plants to bring and just want to purchase plants to get a garden started, then donations can be made to the Cancer Society.

Something new this year: A Master Gardener "booth" will be set up to give gardening advice and answer all your gardening questions.

Tea, coffee, juice and snacks will be served, so come for a visit if you don't have a garden.

P.S. Master Gardeners are happy to come and give advice at functions like this. To keep their qualifications they have to complete so many volunteer hours each year providing gardening information to the public.

## Kingston's Joint Newcomer/Alumnae Circulating Book Club Selections

### Non Fiction

The Brain That Changes Itself: Stories of Personal Triumph from the Frontiers of Brain Science by Norman Doidge, M.D.

### Biography

Julie & Julia: 365 Days, 524 Recipes, 1 Tiny Apartment Kitchen by Julie Powell

### Fiction

Full of Grace by Dorothea Benton Frank

Love Marriage by V. V. Ganeshananthan

The Friday Night Knitting Club by Kate

Jacobs Snow by Orphan Pamuk (Winner of Nobel Prize in Literature)

The Shack: Where Tragedy Confronts Eternity by William P. Young

## Historical Fiction

The Book of Negroes by Lawren Hill

## Mystery

The Redemption of Alexander Seaton by

Shona MacLean

**God made rainy days, so gardeners could get the housework done.**

Single young women used to boil eggs in the morning on St. John's Day. Removing half the egg from its shell, she would fill it with salt and keep it next to her bed believing her future husband would visit her in her dreams. Today's young ladies do not rely on superstition; they are more likely to join one of the dinner cruises for singles leaving from the harbour in the summer.

St Johns

## Editor's Note:

Farewell adieu,. This is my last issue as editor of the LINK. I have learned a great deal and enjoyed the contact with clubs across Canada. The Link has changed over my tenure and has become truly a National Newsletter. When I began as newsletter, I received newsletters from some of the clubs but never received any feedback. Now after each issue, I often receive words of encouragement and appreciation. Thanks for your support. I leave knowing I have made a difference. Thanks to my wonderful assistant Nancy Leger of Brockville, we have been able to glean interesting items from the various club newsletters. I pass on the reins to Suzanne Brett Welsh of Calgary.

Thanks Jeanne Stoness

**ROWS.**  
- Doug Larson

## **WEB SITES**

St Johns, Nfld

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

Fredericton, NB

[www.frederictonnewcomersclub.homestead.com](http://www.frederictonnewcomersclub.homestead.com)

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[londonnewcomersclub.com](http://londonnewcomersclub.com)

Mississauga, ON

[www.newcomers.eboard.com](http://www.newcomers.eboard.com)

Oakville, ON

[www.oakvillnewcomersclub.com](http://www.oakvillnewcomersclub.com)

Sarnia, ON

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

Toronto, ON

[www.TorontoNewcomersClub.ca](http://www.TorontoNewcomersClub.ca)

Regina, SA

[www.reginnewcomersclub.com](http://www.reginnewcomersclub.com)

Calgary, AB

<http://calgarynewcomers.com>

Lethbridge, AB

<http://www.lethbridgenewcomers.com>

Red Deer

[www.freewebs.com/rdnewcomers](http://www.freewebs.com/rdnewcomers)

National Newcomers' Council

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

**A weed is a plant that has mastered  
every survival skill  
except for learning how to grow in**

**TRIED & TRUE RECIPES**

### **Berry Good Squares**

Prep Time: 30 minutes

Cooking Time: 40-50 minutes

12 squares

3 tablespoons butter

1/3 cup sugar

2 egg yolks

2/3 cup flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/4 cup milk

1/4 teaspoon vanilla

**Topping**

2 egg whites

4-6 tablespoons sugar

1/4 teaspoon salt

1 cup blueberries or partridgeberries

Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease 8-inch square pan (pan size is important). Separate egg yolks from egg whites. Cream butter and sugar until light and creamy. Beat in egg yolks. Sift together dry ingredients - flour, baking powder and salt. Gently fold milk and vanilla alternately with sifted flour into above mixture. Spread evenly in greased pan.

Bake at 350°F for 18-20 minutes or until the mixture springs back when touched. Remove from oven and lower temperature to 300°F.

**Topping**

Beat egg whites until peaked. Beat in sugar and salt until stiff peaks form. Gently fold in berries. Spread over baked cake and bake at 300°F until topping has browned lightly (approximately 20 - 30 minutes). Serve freshly made.

(From Traditional Recipes of Atlantic Canada,

### **Roasted Grape Tomatoes with Ginger & Lime**

Serve as a side dish to chicken or pork, or double recipe and top your salad.

**Yields:** 6 servings

**Ingredients:**

2 pints grape tomatoes

1 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil

2 tsp. minced fresh ginger

2 tsp. minced fresh garlic

1 lime zested

2 Tbsp. lime juice

1/4 tsp. sea salt

1/4 tsp. freshly ground black pepper

1/4 cup. chopped cilantro

**Directions:**

1. Preheat oven to 425°F. Line rimmed baking sheet with foil.
2. Place tomatoes on prepared baking sheet and drizzle with olive oil. Use your hands to toss tomatoes around so they are evenly coated with oil.
3. Roast for 20 minutes or until skins are just starting to break.
4. Place tomatoes in serving bowl.
5. Stir in ginger, lime zest, lime juice, sea salt and pepper
6. Garnish with cilantro

Serve 4

Jeanne Stoness

I demonstrated this recipe at a What's for Lunch session at Loblaw's Kingston

