



Newcomers News

Information for the members of the Newcomers Club of Hudson, Ohio

Volume 51 Issue 1

August 2003

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Welcome Back Newcomers! Our Golden Anniversary Year

Welcome back! I hope you all are enjoying the last weeks of your wonderful summer with family and friends! I am delighted and honored to be serving as the President of Hudson Newcomers this year.

I want to thank **Denise Hollenbeck** for an incredible job she did last year! Thanks Denise! I also want to take this opportunity to thank **last year's board** who did a wonderful job of volunteering their time to make this Club what it is today! **Kelly Buehl, Liz Carey, Debbie Dukes, Lisa Durkin, Carlene Fliss, Noreen Flowers, Jane Golz, Debbie Glosson, Danielle Gundling, Sherri Hammond, Paula Hogan, Denise Hollenbeck, Kelly Kempf, Kim Kessler, Lynn Krapp,**

Heather Luce, Mary Neher, Marichu O'Donnell, Kerrie Orazen, Aimee Saeger, Cindy Schultz, and Tempe Zucker. Thank you for all of your hard work, support and dedication. We are fortunate that a lot of them are able to dedicate some of their valuable time to this organization again this year! I also want to extend a **warm welcome to the new 2003-2004 Board members** that are listed in the box on Page 2. It's going to be an exciting year!

When I moved to Hudson four years ago, the Hudson Newcomers Club was the first organization I joined. It gave me the opportunity to meet other women and their families and form strong bonds over the years! Whether it was at casual supper, golfing, wine tasting or a ladies night out, the

Hudson Newcomers Club will always be special to me. So, if you are "new" to Hudson or maybe you have lived here for a while, we welcome you and your families and I'm sure you will become involved and be glad you did!

We have a very exciting year ahead of us...we are celebrating 50 years of the Hudson Newcomers Club! On March 2, 1954 the Welcome Wagon Newcomers Club of Hudson had their first official meeting.

The club's objective was to "take active interest in the welfare of community, promote good citizenship and government and to aid our country and community through the gift of our time and energy." Although changes have happened over the years, we can

apply the original objective to the community today through the dedication of various social and community events, general meetings, charity donations, and special interest groups. The members of the Newcomers Club will not only build a strong bond with each other but to this wonderful community we live in as well. Come and join us in celebrating 50 years of this exciting organization!

I hope you will all attend our annual Get Acquainted Coffee at St. Mary's Church on Friday, August 22. From 10:00am to Noon come and meet some terrific organizations, clubs and Newcomers to the area!

Enjoy the rest of the summer and we will see you on Friday, August 22! ... *Anne Mau*

*...we are celebrating
50 years of the
Hudson Newcomers
Club!*

2003 Get Acquainted Coffee

This year's Newcomer's "Get Acquainted Coffee" will be on Friday, August 22 from 10 am until noon. This annual event welcomes new residents of Hudson to the community. Many Hudson clubs and organizations will be present. This event is open to all current Newcomers Club members, as well as to new residents who want to familiarize themselves with the community. Please spread the word to any new neighbors you may have!

Babysitting will be provided at St. Mary's for \$2 per child, or \$5 per family. Come and introduce yourselves to Hudson clubs while enjoying coffee and pastries. If you have any questions, please contact Tempe Zucker at 330-653-5705 or Debbi Dukes at 330-463-3505.



General Meetings Kickoff at Barlow Community Center September 18

All general meetings will be followed by "Ladies Night Out" Join us!

Hello ladies! I hope this newsletter finds all of our members having a relaxing summer. Between vacations and baseball practices, I sometimes think the school year is less hectic! Anyway, for those of you looking forward to "that time of year" (ie. school), we have an evening planned for you! Mark your calendars and join us Thursday, September 18, at Barlow Community Center. Bring your friends, neighbors, or just come alone. We will do all of the introductions. Who knows, you may meet your neighbor. We'll provide the guest speaker (to be announced) and you will get a chance to start your weekend early.

All general meetings will be followed by Ladies Night Out. September's newsletter will have all of the details.

REMINDER: General Meetings will take place on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

**UPCOMING MEETING DATES:
September 18, October 16, and November 20.**

Newcomers Board 2003 - 2004		
President	Anne Mau	528-1578
Vice President	Kelly Buehl	656-0075
Advisor/ Community Service	Denise Hollenbeck	342-5849
Fashion Show	Kathy Johanson	528-1408
	Mary Simpson	342-5774
Membership	Meghan Vaillancourt	653-5568
Newsletter	Jeanne Bolewitz	653-8333
	Amy Goodman	463-3560
Publicity	Laura Kipp	463-5611
Reception	Debbi Dukes	463-3560
	Tempe Zucker	653-5705
Secretary	Paula Hogan	463-0161
Socials	Susan Oppelt	463-5658
	Sandy Palazzo	655-0960
Special Interest	Mary Neher	656-1770
	Aimee Saeger	653-9156
Treasurer	Lynn Krapf	650-9050
Ways & Means	Jane Golz	653-5811

Ohio Trivia

2003 marks Ohio's 200th year of statehood. In recognition of our state's birthday, here are some Ohio firsts that we should be proud of:

- ◆ Akron was the first city to use police cars.
- ◆ Cleveland was the first city in the world to be lighted electrically.
- ◆ The first traffic light was invented by Garrett Morgan of Cleveland in 1923.
- ◆ Orville and Wilbur Wright, bicycle-shop owners from Dayton, invented the first airplane. Orville made the first manned flight in 1903.
- ◆ The National Football League started in Canton in 1920 and is now home to the Pro Football Hall of Fame
- ◆ The Cincinnati Red Stockings (now the Cincinnati Reds) were the nation's first professional baseball team.
- ◆ Oberlin College was the first interracial and coeducational college in America.

Also, check out Summit County's Bicentennial Barn at 3742 Hudson Drive in Stow (can be seen from Route 8).



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Special Interest Groups...

We've got a lot going on!

Book Club

Carol Hawkins, 650-4964

If you enjoy reading a variety of books, participating in lively discussions, and making terrific friends, then you will want to join our group! We meet once a month at a member's home, where we also have fun socializing and indulging in tasty treats.

Our upcoming selections include *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson and *Savannah Blues* by Mary Kay Andrews. For more details, give Carol a call. (Please leave a message and she will return your call.) New members are most welcome!

Bunco

Chair Needed!

This social, fun and mindless dice game is a great way to meet a lot of different women and have fun in the process. We are looking for someone to chair this group. Please call Mary Neher at 656-1770 or Aimee Saeger at 653-9156 if you are interested.

Casual Supper

Sandy Palazzo 655-0960

Each group of six couples meets monthly to enjoy an evening together without kids and the hassles of restaurant dining. Each couple brings just one item to the hosts' home — an appetizer, dessert, salad or maybe a favorite wine.

Chick Flicks

Dianna Palmeri 342-7159

If you spell "relaxation" M-O-V-I-E, then a "Chick Flicks" outing may be just what you need! What better way to see all those tear-



jerkers or romantic comedies that it's hard to drag "you-know-who" to! The next scheduled date is **Wednesday, August 20th**. Why not treat yourself to an evening with friends, and popcorn in front of the big screen?

Contact Dianna at dspbaskets@adelphia.net or 330-342-7159 with any questions or to get on the e-mail/phone list. Details for the movie will be forwarded to you a couple of days beforehand. No need to RSVP...just show up if you can (and feel free to bring a friend or two!)

Be sure to mark your calendar for **Tuesday, September 16th**, too. We'd love to have you join the fun!

Community Service

Denise Hollenbeck 342-5849

This group is responsible for contributing to many projects within the community (i.e., Relay for Life, Ronald McDonald House Dinner project). Each month we will be updated on future projects.

Golf

Tempe Zucker 653-5705

The golf group is open to women of all levels. We play a relaxing 9 holes at area courses every one or two weeks during the summer and fall. Contact: Tempe Zucker 330-653-5705.



Ladies Night Out

Aimee Saeger 653-9156

Always an enjoyable evening away from home, this group meets at local restaurants and night spots for good food and kid-free, girls only conversation. Our first meeting will be after the general meeting in September at Kepner's on Main Street. Join us for food, drinks and maybe a little Karaoke!

Tennis

Eileen Fitz Gerald 342-7108

Thursday 1:00 - 2:30 PM. Babysitting is available on site. Beginning players are welcome. We play for laughs not trophies. This is a FUN Group. If anyone is interested in becoming a fulltime member of Western Reserve Racquet Club, I would be happy to introduce you to groups of players with your skill level.

Wine Tasting

Diana Foley 650-1889

A very UN-pretentious monthly get together for couples who are wine enthusiasts and for those who just want to try some great wines.

Anyone interested in participating in one of the Special Interest Groups can call Mary Neher 656-1770 or Aimee Saeger at 653-9156.

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Mayberry Minutes

"I thought I'd moved to Mayberry when . . ."

“ . . . I first realized Hudson resembled a scene from Norman Rockwell when not only did I receive a visit from the Welcome Wagon, but three of my neighbors sent their children to my door with homemade goodies.”

Amy Goodman
(moved from Sewickley, Pa '00)

.....



Guest Editorial

Amy Pendergrass

This month, we had the pleasure of speaking with local realtor Amy Pendergrass of The Amy Pendergrass Team of Hudson's Smythe Cramer office. She and her husband Keith moved here nine years ago and started the real estate business roughly seven years ago. They were the original "corporate movers" so they can truly identify with people who are buying and selling real estate. They have three wonderful children who Amy says are definitely her motivation and inspiration!

One of the first things we wanted to know was how this year's Hudson housing market compared to past years? Answer: Well, let's look at some key statistics:

	2003 (6 months)	2002	2001	2000
Market time:	83 days	76 days	88 days	83 days
Avg. Price:	\$302k	\$300k	\$291k	\$293k
Homes sold:	160	346	390	390
Sale Price to list:	97.5%	97%	96.7%	96.4%

Q: There are a lot of numbers here, but what do they mean?

A: Well, overall, it means the market is pretty good. Market times are around historic levels. Prices are trending up gently. Sale price to list price ratios are strong. **BUT**, unit sales are down.

Q: Why?

A: Quite simply, God ain't making any more land. There is very little new construction in Hudson.

Q: What if interest rates go up? How will that affect the market's status?

A: First of all, bet the farm they will go up. They are currently at 50 year lows. Those of us who survived the early 80's and 18% interest rates remember that homes still sold. When rates do increase, the impact on our market should be minimal, if noticeable. It would take a major leap in points for us to feel it.

Q: What key recommendation do you have for buyers?

A: Our thought for the day for buyers – "Be Prepared." When the right home comes along, it won't be around forever. Get pre-approved with a lending institution. Get data up front from your realtor and study the market. When your home becomes available, move fast, very fast.

Q: How about for sellers?

A: Maintain your home. It doesn't have to have expensive updates, but it does have to be well-

Social Events:

Mark the Dates

Sandy and Susan Wax Poetic

Another year has come again:
Get out your calendar so you'll know what and when.
We are the newest socials: Sandy and Susan
Here to plan the parties that'll keep the year
cruisin'!

So many options, too many choices:
We took a vote and listened to your voices!
There are lots of things to do and fun to be had
Here are the 3 events we know you'll be glad!

The Barn Bash last year was such a hoot:
We will do it again, for about the same loot.
Details, directions you'll want to know when
Save the date, it is Friday, October Ten
Heritage Barn is where it will be
Invitations to follow even the fee!

Something for the family in the winter when it's chilly.
Call us crazy or a little silly:
We'll meet at the POOL at Life Center Plus.
No need for sunscreen or any beach stuff!
Then comes the Spring Grand Finale.
We'll meet again for an adult Road Rally!

We are seeking assistance, even your help
Give us a call or even a yelp.

We are here to serve you and plan for the group
Look for future articles to keep you in the loop!

Please contact us if you would like to assist in any way:

Susan Oppelt 330-463-5658
Sandy Palazzo 330-655-0960

maintained and clean. And remember, buyers have access to enormous amounts of housing data. If your home is priced competitively, it will sell. If it isn't, you're going to be on the market quite a while.

Q: One last question. How does the Hudson housing market stack up against neighboring communities?

A: One of the greatest lies ever told is 'Houses in Hudson are so expensive.' Not so! Homes in Solon cost 15+% more than comparable homes in Hudson. Some areas of Stow cost more per square foot than Hudson. This is a great community with great schools and homes that historically have retained their value and appreciated.

Thanks Amy for talking to us and sharing your valuable insights!





Ways And Means

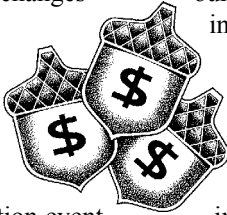
Budget Changes - Advertising

Welcome new and old members to another action packed year of Newcomer events! We are so pleased that we can offer such a variety of programs and events to our members at a minimal cost. The club has some dynamite long term goals for growth, and for that reason we changed some of the way we format our annual budget. For those of you new to the club, I'd like to recap a few changes the last two years have brought.

For years, we held a Christmas social and silent auction to help underwrite the costs of the club. While the event was lots of fun and had good attendance, as a fundraiser it wasn't always successful. For this reason, last year we eliminated the auction event and instead increased the content of the Newsletter, including income generating advertising space. Between the ten Newsletter issues and the Annual Directory published in November, we take a total of 46 ads.

Our newsletter ads (4 per month) are roughly the size of a business card and cost \$25. The directory ads are slightly larger and run \$40. We

solicit local services or professional businesses for ads *only if they have been personally recommended by one of our members.* We never run two competing ads in one issue, and we try not to have more than a few ads in the year for the same type of service. This way we are not only providing you with a list of solid businesses, we are also presenting our advertiser the opportunity to get their name in front of a defined target audience.



If you know someone that would like to advertise in our newsletter, please pass their name and phone number onto me and I will be happy to pursue them. In the meantime, be sure and make note of who is advertising in our Newsletters; we are certainly eager to support those businesses that support us.

The second way we generate income is by selling 50/50 raffle tickets at all of our events. The payout may be smaller, but your odds are far greater than if you bought an Ohio Lottery Ticket. So the next time you attend a program or event, don't forget to take a chance. Winners are always published in the following month's newsletter!

Jane Golz 330-653-5811 or jjgolz@aol.com

“... be sure and make note of who is advertising in our newsletters; we are certainly eager to support those businesses that support us.”



Handyman Reference File

Your Opinions Count!

Last year we began a sincere effort to build up a database of professionals and services that have been used by our members. There is certainly nothing more frustrating than going through the phone book looking for a plumber or electrician or pediatrician, when you know there are hundreds of opinions out there from which you would benefit!

For this reason, at all of our meetings this year, you will find our **HANDYMAN REFERENCE FILE** available for your perusal. For any referral you will find an index card filled out by one of our members. The index card will have the following information:

- Name of Company
- Type of service provided
- Contact at Company, Address and Phone

- Years in Business
- Name of Newcomer making referral
- Rating by newcomer (on a scale of 1-5) on Price, Performance, and Punctuality
- Date service was performed

Our reference file will only work with your help. If you have recently had any type of work done on your home, your car, your appliances, etc., please take the time to jot down your opinion, whether good or bad.

In time, we will have gathered information on dozens of local businesses and the file will become a treasure from which our members may benefit. If you would rather just give the information over the phone, I would be happy to fill out a form for you.

Jane Golz 330-653-5811 or jjgolz@aol.com



Reference List #1

Join the fun! In the spirit of the Get Acquainted Coffee, we thought we would generate an updated version of last year's table on the various organizations in Hudson. Remember: this is just a sampling!

Organization	Contact	Phone	Type of Organization	Average Age	Current Members	Dues
Blossom Women's Committee	Kimberle Tierney	650-0181	Fundraising for the Orchestra at Blossom	26-65	100+	\$30
Case-Barlow Farm	Joan Hamm Exec. Director	650-0591	Volunteering/Service	45+	NA	NA
Establishment Club	Vivian Norman	650-2702	Social/bridge/antiquing	50	120	\$12
Friends of the Hudson Library	Perry Noe	656-2297	Service/Volunteer	20-70	260	\$10
Hattie Larlham League	Liz Carey	653-9701	Service/fundraising for profoundly disabled kids	All ages	115	\$20
Hudson Antiques Club	Sharon Bonhomme	463-5718	Social/antiquing	45-50	30	\$10
Hudson Community Service	Lucy Karlake	653-3286	Service/Community Support	30-80	15	\$15
Hudson EMS	Bob Audet	342-1842	Volunteer EMS Service	18-70	80	
Hudson Garden Club	Sherry Beam	342-0969	Garden enthusiast/community	40-60		
Hudson Heritage Assoc.	Ron Strobl	656-5757	Preservation of Hudson's character	30-80	200	\$20
Hudson League for Service	Lorna Justice	342-5559	Service/community events	40-50	80	\$10
Hudson Newcomers Club	Anne Mau	528-1578	SOCIAL!	30-45	120	\$25
Hudson Preschool Parents	Cathy Schuetz	528-3804	Activities for preschoolers/programs for parents	30-45	300+	\$20
Hudson PTO	Barb Boslet	653-9495	Supporting Hudson schools	40-50		\$10
Hudson Society of Artists	Lucy Karlake	653-3286	Opportunities to further interest in and display art	20-85	145	\$15
Questers Antiques Club - David Hudson Chapter	Vonnie Watson	650-0268	Social/historical	50-70	15	\$15
Relay for Life	Tom Murphy	342-5420	American Cancer Society	35-55	75	NA
Women's Club of Hudson	Eileen Atwood	653-9218	Service/Social (Hudson Antique Show)	55	225	

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**New Member Registration/
Membership Renewal Form**

Payment: Cash ____ Check ____

Received: _____

Name: _____
(last) (first) (husband)

Address: _____

Email: _____

Moved from: _____

Children: _____
(Names, birthdays and grades) _____

Your Employer: _____

Husband's Employer: _____

Your Birthday: _____
(month/date)

Joined Hudson Newcomers _____
(month/date)

*The information contained in this box will be printed in the Hudson Newcomers Directory.
Must be received by Oct. 1, 2003 to be included in the directory*

Indicate which groups you would be interested in participating. The Chairwoman of that group will contact you.

- Book Club Bunco Casual Supper Chick Flicks
- Community Service Tennis Wine Tasting Golf
- Ladies Night Out Any new ideas? Let us know _____

We need your help! Please check off any area you would like to volunteer for. Thanks for helping us out!

- Community Service Socials Fashion Show Greeters
- Welcoming Committee Newcomers Board Refreshments at Monthly Program

How did you find out about Hudson Newcomers Club:

- Friend/Neighbor _____ Hudson Hub-Times Realtor _____
- Welcome Basket Get Acquainted Coffee Other _____

Dues: \$25.00 for 2003-2004 year
 \$15.00 for half year (February 1 – April 30th)
 \$18.00 for Associate Members (after 3 years)

Please make checks payable to: Hudson Newcomers Club

Detach and mail this form to:
(Or bring it to the September Meeting)

Hudson Newcomers Club
P.O. Box 881
Hudson, OH 44236

Newcomer News

Hudson Newcomers Club

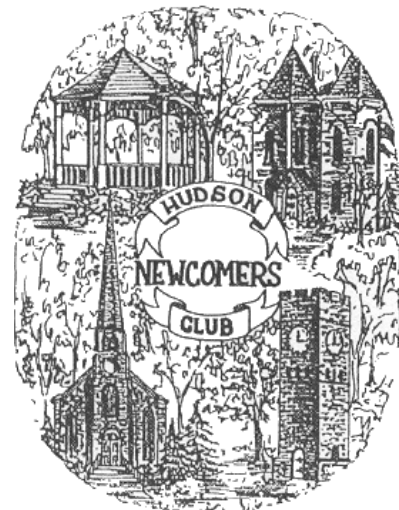
PO Box 881

Hudson OH 44236

Greetings Everyone! I hope everyone is enjoying their summer - I can't believe August is here already! It's that time of the year to think about renewing your membership and I hope everyone will do so. We have lots of great things planned for the coming year. Please encourage friends and neighbors to join, especially if they are new to Hudson. Don't forget, you must register by September 15th to receive the newsletter and October 1st is the cutoff to be included in the directory.

The renewal form can be found on page 7 (just on the other side of this note). Take a moment now to fill out the form!

Meghan Vaillancourt
Membership Coordinator



***50 Years of Newcomers
in Hudson***