



NEWS & NOTES

JANUARY 2018

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Cheers to 2018, and whether you have been on island time for almost three years or just three months, we are thrilled to have you as a member of our dynamic group of Newcomers.

Newcomers, like most things, is what you make of it. When my husband and I joined almost three years ago, we started out slow with a few monthly gatherings, Dining In and I joined a book club. At the time our daughter was 11 years old and just starting middle school, so we were hesitant to leave her alone too much. As she became more settled and connected, so have we and we will be forever grateful for the wonderful friends we have made, and are still making through Newcomers.

Your membership directory and this newsletter are intended to be resources to help you get better connected and acquainted with your fellow members. If you haven't picked up your directory yet, please see the membership report on page 7.

This is the first of three newsletters we will distribute between January and May. We also recommend connecting through Facebook with the Island Newcomers group. There are postings daily about upcoming Newcomers events, as well as interesting island and Golden Isles happenings not sponsored by Newcomers, but certainly worth experiencing.

So, again, welcome to the club!

MICHELE HUTCHINS
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
newsletter@islandnewcomers.org



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&
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



“May you live in interesting times” as the saying goes. After Hermine, Matthew, Irma and an ice storm in the past 16 months, I suspect most new island residents would rather tone down the “interest” level. After all, with the myriad of functions and activities the Island Newcomers Club offers, everyday is as interesting as each of us choose to make it.

Between the monthly gatherings **Lila** tirelessly arranges, the slate of varied activities our Activity Directors present and the impromptu social gatherings, the opportunities for new relationships is the great benefit of our club. We’re all in this boat together and probably have more in common than we might sometimes think. In the words of the late Manuel Maloof of Manuel’s Tavern in Atlanta, “Anybody don’t like this life is crazy.”

These past several months have zipped by, starting with the usual upbeat gathering in September at Bennie’s, followed by the gathering at the beautiful Frederica Stables, then the annual gathering at St. William’s Catholic Church in which Barbara Scragg arranged a varied and interesting slate of speakers from some of the island’s volunteer organizations. In this regard, I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the spirit of our members whenever there is a need, from the energetic group organized by **Mark McManus** after Irma that helped both members and non-members with storm cleanup, to **Tom Luckstone** who appeared at the right time to navigate our club insurance needs, to **Ed Meadows** for his countless hours with the Island Planning commission in order to promote responsible land use. Good Luck Ed as it seems to be such an uphill battle, to all the officers and directors of our club who work harder than most members can imagine. There are many other members that could be mentioned in the spirit of giving and lending a helping hand, but I’m sure you see my point.

Continuing the recap, what could be nicer than the December gathering at the King & Prince or better for belly laughs than the costumes at the Sock Hop? Please tell me those were costumes, please.

Spring is getting closer, I promise. That being the case, we have formed a nominating committee as required by the bylaws for the purpose of compiling a slate of nominees for all seven officers on the Board of Directors. All nominations must be in and validated by the March general meeting, now slated for March 13, with elections at the meeting in April, now slated for April 10.

There are upcoming vacancies for a number of Activity Directors. Anyone with interest in helping the Island Newcomers Club as an officer or Activity Director should talk with the current officer or director or a member of the nominating committee. The nominating committee is composed of **Laura Maddox, JJ Johnson and Susan Madden**. The club needs your help, and I think you will find the experience most rewarding.

In the meantime, let’s continue to get to know one another and enjoy our time together.

John Hart
PRESIDENT

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello there!

Ohhhhh we have had all kinds of excitement! Who knew moving to St. Simons Island we would have tropical storms, hurricanes, and ice storms.

Island Newcomers has had some fun gatherings..."Welcome Back" at Bennies Red Barn , "Hoe Down" at Frederica Stables, "We Love our Neighbors"- (*Introduction to our local Non-Profit Organizations*) at St. Williams Catholic Church, "Holiday Affair" at King and Prince, and our latest "Sock Hop' at Sea Palms....Coming soon on February 15 (*notice it's a Thursday*) "We Love Beach Music" at the All New Ziggy's with an amazing buffet from Iguana's Seafood Restaurant.

These meetings are a fun and casual way to make new friends and learn about our great island. Come on down-everyone is so friendly and eager to meet you.

On another note if you love parties and entertaining let me know. I am being kicked out after this year and I'm looking for a replacement for next year. If you're interested, you can get involved in the upcoming events and see how fun and easy the job is. 😊 I'll even help you out next year if you want!

Hope to see ya soon!

LILA
VICE PRESIDENT
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"GREAT DECISIONS"

The Island Newcomers join tens of thousands of Americans as we begin our "Great Decisions" learning series in January 2018. This program has been offered by the U.S. Foreign Policy Association (www.fpa.gov) for over 60 years to increase citizen awareness and assess the pulse of sentiment across the nation concerning world affairs.

Some of the topics we will learn about are: Media and foreign policy, Turkey: a partner in crisis, U.S. global engagement and the military, and Global health: progress and challenges.

If you are not registered this year, but would like to stop in to join a discussion, please feel free to join us any Wednesday evening through March 21.

Simply contact **TERRY OSMAN, CHAIR**, at: greatdecisions@islandnewcomers.org.



We'd love to have you!

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Adopt the highway was canceled for the month of January due to weather.

Our next pick up will February 3. We will meet at McDonalds at 8 a.m. or you can come to the pick up site at 8:30 a.m. The pick up site is at the stop sign of Sea Island Rd and Hamilton Rd. Anybody and everybody is welcome to join the group. We do provide gloves, bags, grabbers and vests, and can always use help.

STEPHANIE HERZBERGER
CHAIR

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ISLAND ADVENTURES

Greetings Island Newcomers!!

What a busy year we have had so far! Many of us have participated in a Kayak Tour, Eco Beach Walk, Marsh Walk, Howfyl Broadfield Plantation Tour, Sapelo Island Tour, Cannon's Point Walk, Fort King George Event,

Port of Brunswick Tour and the Southeast Georgia Health System Hospital Tour.



We decided to do some overnight trips this year which is a first for the Newcomers. In the fall, we spent a beautiful weekend in Charleston, S.C. with a lovely harbor tour, carriage tour of the city and lots of amazing food and sunset happy hours on the many rooftops. During the Christmas holidays we spent a festive weekend in Thomasville, Georgia and attended the Victorian Christmas Festival on Friday and toured Pebble Hill Plantation on Saturday.

If you have missed out on any of the listed events, there are still several to choose from in the coming months. We have an upcoming Sapelo tour that still has seats available as well as the Okefenokee Boat Tour in Folkston. New on the schedule this year is a day trip to Ossabaw Island which is only accessible by boat. We will be cruising on a pontoon boat to the third largest barrier island off the coast of Georgia. Ossabaw is not far from Savannah located between Wassaw and St. Catherine's Island and while you may not have ever heard of it like the popular Cumberland and Sapelo Islands, it promises to be an amazing day. I am sure we will be raving about it upon our return.

Also this year, we will be attending Cinema Gourmet at the Historic Ritz Theater in Brunswick in the upcoming months. Dinner is provided by Indigo Coastal Shanty with showings of Much Ado about Nothing, Chinatown and Some Like it Hot!!

Unfortunately, the Cumberland Island, Dunham Farms Garden Tour & History Walk, FLETC Tour (open to 3rd year only) and Lady Jane Shrimp Boat Cruise have already sold out!! Good news is they will be offered again next year!

We are still in the planning stages of a Wine Tasting at the soon to be open Wine Bar owned by the Golden Isles Olive Oil Company and a Sunset Dolphin Cruise either out of Saint Simons or Jekyll. More details to come.

We encourage each of you to sign up for one or many events. It is a great way to make new friends and see some pretty neat stuff in the process.

Hope to see you on an Adventure soon!!

SUSAN MADDEN & DAWN SCHLICH
ISLAND ADVENTURE DIRECTORS
islandadventures@islandnewcomers.org



FIRST-YEAR NEWCOMERS: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

A first-year newcomer event is being planned for Feb. 22 to make up for the one that was cancelled in the fall due to Hurricane Irma. More details coming soon!



GOLF

Newcomer golf is for anyone at any level of golf. We have mixed groups and mixed ability levels. The goal is to have fun and meet some new islanders.

We play at Sea Palms every other Tuesday at 2 p.m. Emails are sent out a few days before to remind you to sign up by Sunday evening if you are going to play on Tuesday.

This year you may choose to play 9 holes and if you want to play more, add another 9 holes. The cost for 9 holes is \$19 which includes cart and greens fees. For 18 holes, the cost is \$38 which includes cart and greens fees.

After play, many of us get together for a beverage in The Public House at Sea Palms. We hope that you will join us for that as well as the golf.

Gael Johnson
CHAIR

gaelsmj@yahoo.com



BOWLING

Hello Newcomers,

We are Newcomer – bowlers and bowl every last Monday of a month and welcome all levels from “gutter ball bowlers” to “professionals.” You can sign up as a single or as a couple.

Where: Strike Zone Bowling Center, which is located at 380 Millennium Blvd., Brunswick (just across 1-95 on Golden Isles Parkway, next to the Toyota dealership).

Time: 6:30 p.m. Come a bit earlier to meet and greet and pick out your shoes and bowling ball.

Amount: \$10 per bowler (PLEASE BRING CASH) - covers the cost of two rounds of bowling and shoes (you pay when you arrive at the bowling alley)

If you are interested or need more information please email: ute1011@gmail.com or bowling@islandnewcomers.org
Looking forward to fun bowling evenings! (912) 689-9856



UTE KLEEMANN-SPORTSCHUETZ
CHAIR



DINING OUT

With over 200 members, we are enjoying meeting our fellow Newcomers and eating at our wonderful restarurants on our lovely island.

It's not too late to join us. Please email me at:

diningout@islandnewcomers.org

DEBBIE TOWNLEY
CHAIR



FACEBOOK



Facebook is a great way to stay up with current events that are going on with Island Newcomers as well as local events around the area.

Pictures are posted of the many exciting adventures/excursions/gatherings that the Island Newcomers Club participate in.

If needed, you may also post for resale Adventure/event tickets if unable to attend an outing.

What better way to get to know your way around your NEW home and connect with fun new friends along the way!!Want you join us?



CINDY SIMPSON
CHAIR
faceook@islandnewcomers.org

VOLUNTEERING

Fellow Newcomers,

Donna Wade from Hello GoodBuy, the resale store, contacted me about recruiting volunteers to work at their facility in Brunswick. St. Mark's Episcopal Church is their sponsor and they give all their profits back to the community. They recently awarded nine non-profits in Brunswick and St. Simons \$6k from their sales. Some of the recipients include, CASA, GVA, Coastal Outreach Soccer, No Kill Glynn, the Library, and United Way. They also, of course, accept donations of clothing and home goods for resale. Anyone interested in this volunteer opportunity can call Hello GoodBuy at 912-264-8181.

Also, Glynn County Crisis Center is the local domestic violence shelter in Brunswick and they need help on an ongoing basis as well as particular projects. A Taste of Glynn is their annual fundraiser held at the King and Prince and they need volunteers to help with restaurant sign up, photography, silent auction, general day of activities and logistics. The link to the TOG website is

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

The Crisis Center Office number is 912 264 1348 ext. 100.

BARBARA SCRAGG
CHAIR

volunteers@islandnewcomers.org



ISLAND BUDDIES

Stay tuned for upcoming February activities!



LINDA WOODALL
CHAIR
singles@islandnewcomers.org

BOOK CLUBS



We have several active newcomers book clubs. Some books that have been discussed are:

Underground Railroad
by Colson Whitehead

Little Fires Everywhere
by Celeste Ng

Before We Were Yours
by Lisa Wingate

Hillbilly Elegy
by J.D. Vance

A Gentleman in Moscow
by Amor Towles

What Happened
by Hillary Clinton

KONNIE MAXFIELD
CHAIR

bcevening@islandnewcomers.org



MEMBERSHIP

Our current membership is 331. (As compared to 385 for 2016/17, and 311 for 2015/16.) The breakdown is as follows:

1st year	157
2nd year	91
3rd year	83

Since the directory closed on October 10, 2017, 40 people have signed up, including seven since January 1.

We have approximately 80 households that have not picked up their directories. Please watch for upcoming opportunities to pick yours up at monthly gatherings or contact us at:

membership@islandnewcomers.org.

Remember, directories are one per household, not one per member. We do it this way to keep printing costs down.

JO & DAVIS SCOTT
CHAIRS



2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



John Hart	President
Lila Magbee	Vice President
JJ Johnson	Treasurer
Gail McCarty	Secretary
Davis Scott	Membership
Joe Leek	Webmaster
Susan Madden	Island Adventures

2017-2018 ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

Stephanie Herzberger	Adopt-a-Highway
Michele Hutchins	Advertising & Newsletter
Konnie Maxfield	Book Clubs
Ute Sportschuetz & Kathy Keller	Bowling
Kathy Gansereit	Bridge
Cindy Simpson	Communications—Facebook
Robyn & Mark McManus	Communications—Name Tags
Deborah & Bill Brown	Dining In
Debbie Townley	Dining Out
Gael Johnson	9-Hole Golf
TBD	18-Hole Golf
Terry Osman	Great Decisions
Dawn Schlich	Island Adventures
Debbie Ellerson & Miriam Narmore	Island Buddies
June Sherwood	Mah Jongg
Jo Scott	Membership
Laura Maddox	Publicity
Barbara Scragg	Volunteer Liaison