

Victoria Women's Newcomers Club

Newsletter - SEPTEMBER 2011

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

VICTORIA WOMEN'S NEWCOMERS CLUB
Newsletter – September 2011

Welcome back to all our members! Although summer seemed extremely slow to arrive, August has been a magnificent month with (almost) nonstop sunshine. We have high hopes that this lovely weather will extend well into the fall months. Victoria continues to be an amazing destination. Welcome back to those of you who have been traveling this summer and to those who have been busy entertaining friends and family members who love to visit Victoria. I know that I am looking forward to getting back to my regular routines.

As September is just around the corner, our first luncheon meeting of 2011-12 is rapidly approaching. As your President, it gives me great pleasure to introduce to you our enthusiastic Executive committee. We are fortunate to have a mixture of new and returning members on the Executive. We are dedicated to continuing the fine work accomplished last year. It is our goal to provide for you interesting luncheon speakers and a wide range of activities that will promote friendships and provide supports for Our activities this fall cover a wide range of opportunities and we strongly encourage you to get involved. If there is something that you would like to do that we are not currently offering, please connect with our Activity Coordinators, Pam Thompson and Agnes Amundrud, We are always interested in starting new groups that meet our members' needs.

At our monthly luncheons, we will have a variety of speakers to entertain, inform and familiarize you with your new community. You will also have the opportunity to meet brand new members as they arrive in Victoria as well as connect with our more experienced members who joined our community several years ago. Moving to a new city is both challenging and exciting! If there is a topic that you think may be of interest to the membership, then please let our Vice President or myself know.

As we initiated last year, all former members renew their membership in September. We have tried to streamline the process by providing you with an electronic version of our renewal form. Thank you for taking the time to complete it before our first meeting. We are intending to be as organized as possible for receiving both new and returning members. If you have a comment or want to ask a question, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am looking forward to seeing you on September 21st.

Take care,

Kathy Schaffer, 778-430-1892, kathyschaffer@shaw.ca

NEWCOMERS LUNCHEON

September 21st, 2011 at Cedar Hill Golf Club

1400 Derby Rd @ 11:30 a.m.

To make your reservation email v1newcomersluncheon@gmail.com.

New members and guests always welcome



Our September theme is "getting to know you". Come out to our September luncheon to meet new friends and to renew your friendships with your fellow newcomers. There will be lots of time to sign up for our varied activities and to discover what everyone did this summer.

A REMINDER

At our luncheons, if possible, please pay at the door by cheque. The price for the luncheon is \$22.00 for members, non-members and guests. We are required to provide the facility with the number of lunch attendees on the Monday prior to the luncheon. If you must cancel your reservation please email v1newcomersluncheon@gmail.com by the Saturday before the luncheon. If you fail to cancel by this deadline, please send the Treasurer your \$22.00 cheque to cover the cost of your reservation.

NEWCOMERS ACTIVITIES for 2011

How quickly the year has flown by and what an active year it has been. We were delighted to see how many varied and interesting activities got off the ground this year and the enthusiasm and support with which they were embraced. A special thanks to all those who volunteered to convene the groups. It is through your efforts and willingness to put in the time and energy to run the groups that we had such a successful year.

If you enjoyed participating in the activities this year, we invite you to consider convening one of the groups in the fall. It is always rewarding to become more actively involved in the groups and it's such a great way to make new friends. Without the conveners the groups would not run.

In September we will be starting all the activities anew, to allow new members to join and to prevent the groups from becoming too large. Activity groups that are presently running have the option of breaking off from Newcomers and continuing on their own, independent of Newcomers. This is highly encouraged, so that when your 3 years are up and you are no longer part of a Newcomers organization, you still have activity groups in which to participate. If you have any questions about this please speak to one of our activity coordinators.

Our ongoing activities include:

Book Club

Do you love to read and want to have an opportunity to discuss new books or some of your old favourites? The opportunity to be in a book club is always open to Newcomers. You may join an existing group if there are still openings or sign up for a new group.

Bridge

For years we have heard that playing bridge will keep our minds sharp. A recent study also claims that playing bridge improves the immune system and may help ward off colds! If you are a bridge player and are looking for others to play with (and you want to be smarter and healthier) join this group for a friendly game in members' homes. It's a great way to meet new friends and have a good time.

Butchart Garden Walks

If you enjoy gardens you'll marvel at the design and beauty of internationally renowned Butchart Gardens where 1,000,000 bedding plants in 700 varieties ensure uninterrupted bloom from March to October.

In the early 1900's Jennie Butchart transformed a limestone quarry on her property into the Sunken garden and added the Japanese, Italian and Rose gardens, plus bronze statues, fountains and ponds. Butchart Gardens is a magical place and you'll leave refreshed and inspired. The group meets for coffee after the walk. The group meets outside the Gift Shop at 9:30 am.... you must have an annual pass to Butchart Gardens.

Coffee Social

This is a relaxed group who meet in each other's homes and who enjoy conversations on many topics. Returning members in the group are happy to answer Newcomers questions regarding settling in to Victoria. By sharing our stories and resources we build a supportive environment that helps all of us with our adjustments to Victoria.

Couples Friendly Dinners

Meet other couples in the comfort of a member's home for a casual meal and conversation. The dinner is potluck with the host providing the main course

and the guests bring the appetizer, salad and dessert. Each couple brings wine. What a great chance to try out a new recipe or share one of your favourite regional dishes.

Couples Game Night

Each month couples gather for fun friendship and to play different games. Games include Monopoly, Clue, Pictionary, Slang Teasers, Things and much more.

Couples Pub Night

Spend an evening socializing with other Newcomer couples in a casual setting while discovering the many neighbourhood pubs of greater Victoria. We'll visit Victoria's brewpubs and traditional English, Irish and Scottish pubs where many types of local beer and ales are on tap. The Newcomers group meets in a private area of the pub. Bring your partner and enjoy drinks, dinner, and stimulating conversation in a relaxed atmosphere.

Dallas Road Walkers

Every week this mid-morning walking group leaves Clover Point to walk for 1/2 an hour to an hour. You choose the short walk or the longer walk - Clover Point to Douglas Street and back. This walk will take place rain or shine, with or without a dog.

Afterwards the group decides on one of the local coffee shops at Ogden Point, Cook Street Village or Fisherman's Wharf.

Ladies Dinner Club

Meet other members in the comfort of a member's home for a casual meal, conversation and lots of laughter. The hostess provides the place; dishes, tea and coffee while, the guests bring the potluck dishes coordinated by the convener and wine or beverages of their choice.

Ladies Golf

We are a group of casual golfers who do not keep score and are out there for the fun of golf. We play 9 holes (Par 3's and 4's) every other week and enjoy a beverage after the game.

Ladies Pub Night

Spend an evening socializing with other Newcomers in a casual setting while discovering the many neighbourhood pubs of greater Victoria. We'll visit Victoria's brewpubs and traditional English, Irish and Scottish pubs where many types of local beer and ales are on tap. The Newcomers group usually meets in a private area of the pub. Enjoy drinks, dinner, and stimulating conversation in a relaxed atmosphere.

Movie Night

This group meets monthly, on a Tuesday evening to see movies

that are offered in the Victoria area. There will be an opportunity for beverages after the show for those who are interested. Movies for the upcoming week are advertised on Fridays so watch your email for the Tuesday choice.

Mystery Book Club

Do you enjoy reading head scratching whodunits, spine tingling suspense, psychological thrillers? Are you fascinated by intrigue? This is an opportunity to get together with other newcomers who love mysteries, to discuss your favourites and to be introduced to new mystery authors and their books.

Potluck Lunch

No fuss, no bother, no need to set the table, eating on our laps is just fine. Come share an informal and light lunch (salad, sandwiches and of course, dessert) in each other's homes. Hostess will provide coffee and tea and guests will bring the rest as an organized potluck. What a wonderful way to get to know each other and share some great food.

Restaurant Lunch

Did you know that Victoria has North America's second highest number of restaurants per capita? What a wonderful opportunity for you to visit restaurants, cafés and bistros that will tease your taste buds, with the opportunity to make new friends over a delicious lunch at locations that offer stunning views of the harbour and the mountains. The mini lunch group may try a local favourite restaurant or check out one of the hottest new eateries. Who says we can't

explore Victoria through our stomachs!!

Scrabble

Do you fancy yourself as a wordsmith? Here's an opportunity to get together with friends in the comfort of each others' homes to play a friendly game of scrabble, enjoy stimulating conversation and have coffee.

Tea House Tours


This group meets once a month to visit some of the many tea houses in Victoria for afternoon tea. Use this opportunity to check out both the British and Asian influence in our popular spots for an afternoon "cuppa".

The Walkers

What better way to enjoy the beauty of Victoria, learn its history and discover its treasures than by a 1 1/2 hour walk, (approx. 5 km.) with friends. We benefit from exercise while we walk, talk and get to know each other! Walks are varied and planned to take advantage of the seasons. For example, we go on casual coastal walks at Saxe Point, discover the first flowers in the Spring in the parks, marvel at the baby goats in Beacon Hill park, meander along the back lanes of Oak Bay, or find Emily Carr's grave. Of course we reward our efforts at the end with coffee and more talk.

If you are interested in joining an existing group or forming a new group please sign up at the next meeting or contact one of the Activity Coordinators.

SEPTEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 RSVP For lunch on Wednesday	17
18	19	20	21 Newcomers Lunch 	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

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