

*January 2026*

# **The Troy Newcomers Topics**

---

## **Socials, Karen Gard and Diana Alexanian**



As we close in on half of our term behind us, we reflect on the Socials we have had so far and the ones we hope to plan for the remainder of the TNC year.

We visited the Stage Nature Center and learned so much about the wildlife in the area, cranked out some apple cider on a manual cider machine and toured the grounds. A group of groovy ladies and some of

their dates attended the Retro Rewind 60's & 70's Show at the Sterling Heights Lions Club and jammed to great music and some even got up and danced the night away. Our latest event took place at the Troy Public Library where we learned how to decorate sugar cookies in a Holiday Cookie Decorating Class.

Our next Social will be a bowling event for TNC members and guests at Bowlero Lanes & Lounge at 4209 Coolidge Highway, South of 14 Mile Road on Saturday, 1.17.26 starting promptly at 3:45 pm (please arrive 15 minutes early). This will be a fun event for bowlers of all skill levels. We will even have prizes! Escape the winter blues to socialize with some fun members and guests! We will bowl three games and will secure enough lanes to keep the games moving along. Stuffed pizza, chips and pretzels will be available onsite or, if you prefer, there are many restaurants in Troy and Royal Oak if people want to continue the fun after bowling at a restaurant. Cost will be determined based on the number of people who sign up but will range from \$13 - \$15/per person, plus \$3 for shoes if rental is required ... so register early by sending a text to Karen at 248.506.7412 by 1.12.26 with the names and cell phone numbers of the people who will participate. We will be able to adjust our headcount up to 4 days prior to the event but after that, you are locked into your payment or the responsibility rests with you to find a replacement(s). We look forward to seeing you there and sharing a wonderful time together ... we encourage you to bring friends and family and share in the excitement.

We always appreciate suggestions from all TNC members, so if there is something you would be interested in attending as a group, shoot us a text or email and we will do our best to follow-up on it. One of the recent suggestions from a member includes a new Game Show Battle Room in Troy. Get ready for one of the most fun events you have ever experienced! Face-off against your family and friends in a custom arena playing immersive game shows – all facilitated by a Game Show Host. We are looking into this for February.

With much gratitude,  
Diana Alexanian and Karen Gard

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Board Meeting

Our next board meeting will take place in the back room of Escape Lanes, on Thursday, January 8th at approximately 11:30 am.

### Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for articles for the February Newsletter is January 25th. Please send your articles to: [troynewcomerstopics@gmail.com](mailto:troynewcomerstopics@gmail.com).



## **January**

Barbara Rosko	12
Joann Bologna	15
Martha Brosseau	15
Irene Koziel	16
Michelle Freeman	23
Janet Fuhrman	27

**Visit us on our Facebook Page!**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/troynewcomers>

**January Luncheon**  
**Gran Castor**  
**2950 Rochester Rd., Troy**  
**January 22<sup>nd</sup>, meet at 12:00 pm**

Our speaker will be Debra Basko, who will talk to us about her experience with the Japanese art of origami and give a demonstration of this ancient paper folding art

Meal will include a ½ size salad and 2 tacos from the choices listed below. No need to choose now. We will order at the restaurant. **Drinks are not included and are cash bar.**

**Chop Salad** – chopped romaine, quinoa, black beans, grilled red onion, radish, avocado, roasted tomatoes, grilled sweet corn, chopped carrot, spiced pumpkin seeds, tossed in cilantro lime vinaigrette

**Caesar Salad** – romaine, cotija, masa croutons, scratch chipotle lime Caesar dressing

**Tacos:**

**Bahn Mi** – house pulled pork tossed in Korean BBQ sauce, red cabbage, pickled jalapeno & carrot, cilantro-sesame aioli

**Taco Night** – ground beef simmered in Honcho Taco Night seasoning, topped with shredded lettuce, house-smoked cheddar & turmeric onions

**Honcho Hot (or not) Chicken** – fried & tossed in Nashville sauce glaze with mayo, dill pickles, scallions & herbs

**Pollo Asado** – chargrilled lime-cumin chicken, chipotle crema, sweet pea guacamole & queso fresco

**Spiced Sweet Potato** – fried sweet potatoes, black bean quinoa salad, grilled corn, chipotle crema & spicy fried onions

Maximum capacity is 30, so you will want to get your reservation in quickly to secure your spot.

**Price for the meal is \$25.00 - PayPal is \$26.41**

**Make checks payable to Troy Newcomers** and mail to  
Karen Patterson, 3508 Tothill Drive, Troy, MI. 48084.

**Deadline is January 15.**

## Rose Awards – Kathy Holm

White Rose, Martha Brosseau -Membership Secretary and Treasurer

Red Rose, Pam Cheli – Holiday Centerpieces



It was a snowy afternoon when I pulled into the driveway of Pam Cheli. I was disguised as a TNC member coming over to assist with the Christmas centerpieces. However, my true mission, as a TNC reporter, was to catch these ladies off guard and come out with a great story for this article.

Upon entering the house, everything was beautifully decorated and seemed completely normal. Then Martha and I followed Pam to her basement. I thought I was in the workshop of Mrs. Claus; art and crafts were everywhere. Craft projects and wrapping paper filled the room. It was then that I noticed all the snacks and drinks Pam had put out. Was this a working afternoon or a PARTY???

Pam guided us to the area where we would be working. Martha, of course caught on immediately and began creating a beautiful centerpiece. Knowing that I was in over my head, I told the ladies the truth, I was there to interview them. Luckily, both Pam and Martha were very cooperative. They first assisted me with my centerpiece (actually, they fixed it and then answered all my interview questions.)

**Martha** was on her way to L.A. where she would be cheering on the Lions with her twin sister from Texas. At this point, I will not make any comments about the game. At least they had great weather.

With their 35th anniversary on the horizon, Martha and Mike are talking about a possible trip to Italy. They have two grown children, Mike and Sarah. The kids both live in Troy, right next door to one another.

When last, we wrote about Martha, she had just adopted a cute little puppy and named him Baxter. Following a week spent away at obedience school and very expensive surgery Baxter is doing quite well.

Martha has been a Newcomer for about 28 years, joining because of the ever-popular babysitting co-op. She has served on the board as Treasurer for years and we don't know what we would do without her. Martha is always happy to answer any members' questions regarding our budget or books.

**Pam Cheli** had just returned from a month-long vacation in Australia and New Zealand. This was a dream vacation celebrating Pam and Rons' 50th anniversary. One of the highlights of the trip was stargazing. The stars in New Zealand are different from the ones at home. Instead of looking to the Big Dipper for directions, the locals use a star called Safari. Along with regular sightseeing excursions our very own Pam went zip lining, and she enjoyed it. Pam has been a Newcomer for 38 years and enjoys euchre, luncheons, golf and bowling. She has previously served on the board as Recording Secretary. Pam also enjoys crafts and gardening.

Pam and Ron have 4 children and 3 grandchildren (one is just a baby.) Each Christmas Pam brings the two older ones to her magical basement and assists them in making a present for their other grandmother.

Pam says "If I have learned anything from my years in Newcomers it is that It's not what you have in life...but who we have in our life that matters. Friendships are everything."

On that note I will thank Pam and Martha for everything they do for the club.

The answer to the previous question is that whenever these two are around, it is a party.



Thank you, Accent Florist for donating the roses for our Awards this month! Please remember them for all your floral needs



**ACCENT FLORIST**  
The Prettiest Corsages & Boutonnieres in Town  
(248) 689-4240

4048 Rochester road  
NE Corner of Wattles & Rochester roads  
Troy, MI 48085

website:  
accentflorist.net

email:  
accentflorist@gmail.com



**MY GUY HANDYMAN  
SERVICES LLC**

---

FREE ESTIMATES.  
FULLY INSURED

**NICHOLAS AVERY - OWNER**  
**586-784-7595**

MYGUYHANDYMANSERVICES@MYAHOO.COM

*email ↗*



## **Service Update: Michele Burns and Eileen Winkle**



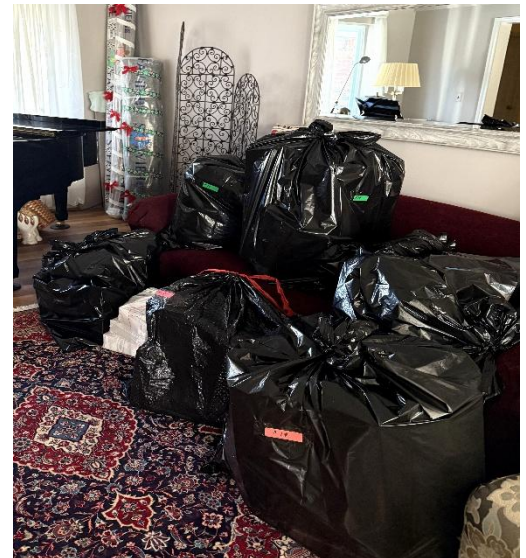
The Christmas Service Project was a HUGE SUCCESS! We adopted a family of 6 through Troy Police's Operation Blue Sleigh. The Troy police work with Troy Schools to identify families that needed help during the holidays. Our family of 6 included adults Claudia and John, 3 boys aged 16, 14, 12 and a young girl aged 4. They all received most if not all the items on their wish lists.

This was made possible by 37 generous club members who donated \$2077.31 and an additional 19 members who bought 63 items! Gifts ranged from

3 platform beds w/mattress, dressers, nightstands, bedroom carpets, underwear, shoes, socks, and deodorant to posters, balls, princess toys and family games.

The Troy Newcomers Club is a very special group of women to be so generous to a family in need ~ we feel blessed and proud to work with you.

Have a *wonderful holiday season*, blessed with peace, happiness and health now and in the New Year!



**Thank You!**





## **December Holiday Luncheon**

The December luncheon was a wonderful way to cap off the year. It was nice to see friends, enjoy a delicious meal and partake in a fun gift exchange. Thank you, President Marie for the entertaining commentary.



## ACTIVITIES

### Book Club – Janet Gole, Activity Leader



Please join us at the **January 21** meeting, hosted by Denise Matthews. Her book is *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot* by Marianne Cronin. This book is a brave testament to the power of living each day to the fullest, a tribute to the stories that we live, and a reminder of our unlimited capacity for friendship and love. An extraordinary friendship. A lifetime of stories.

Please contact Denise at [dsm214@msn.com](mailto:dsm214@msn.com) or **248-214-4498** to confirm you will attend. We'll meet at 6:30 pm. Find her address within the TNC directory.

*We want for people to know us, to know our story, to know who we are and who we will be. And after we've gone, to know who we were.*

### Bowling – Darcel Connors, Secretary



After 15 weeks of bowling, we wrapped up the year with some changes in the season standings. In first place is Team 7 (Darlene Glaze, Lynn Sarosik and Carol Henderson) who finally overtook Team 1 (Kathy Holm, Pam Mayhew and Ardin Moenaert) putting them into second place. Third place is held by Team 4 (Cindy Olczak, Kaoru Goda and Marie Watson). The most turkeys honor is held by Barb Emmer with 4. The most splits converted 5-way tie has been broken by Lynn Sarosik who holds the current record with 6. Jane Egermann has the highest single scratch game score with a 212, that will be difficult to beat. Barb Emmer and Carol Henderson have tied for the highest scratch series with an impressive 514. With position day right around the corner, it will be interesting to see what changes take place in the new year.

If you would like to join as a substitute bowler, contact Darcel at [darcelc@prodigy.net](mailto:darcelc@prodigy.net).

### Culinary Group – Lynn Sarosik & Monica DiMaggio, Activity Leaders



The culinary group had their first meet-up in early December at Tour les Jour bakery & café. There was a great turnout and we discussed activity ideas and our future meeting plans. The group plans to meet about every 4-6 weeks. Daytime, late morning or afternoons are best, with weekdays (Monday through Thursdays) preferred. We may have activities during the summer, which will allow us to pursue early evening events. If transportation is an issue, we can always hire an Uber. Topics are being investigated for a possible meet up in January, although nothing is on the calendar. More details will be available as this group gets off the ground.

If interested, contact Monica DiMaggio at: [mdimaggio@comcast.net](mailto:mdimaggio@comcast.net) so you don't miss any information.



## **Morning Euchre – Gina Kossick, Activity Leader**



We are playing this month on **MONDAY**, January 12 at 9:15 am at the home of Pat Paver. Pat lives in Troy, please see directory for her address. Please RSVP to Pat by Friday, January 9 by calling her at 248-330-0141 or emailing her at [paver@wowway.com](mailto:paver@wowway.com). If you are not a regular hostess, let Pat know if you wish to bring a breakfast item for that morning.

We are beginner friendly and can teach you how to play or give you a refresh, just let the hostess know so you are not put in the count.

## **Evening Euchre – Darlene Glaze, Activity Leader**



Happy New Year!

Our first euchre party for 2026 will be Saturday, January 17 at 6:45pm at the home of Claudia Sparschu. Let Claudia know you are coming, and you can count on a good time. [csparschu@yahoo.com](mailto:csparschu@yahoo.com)

Thank you, Darcel Connors for hosting our December party in your home. Our first-place winner was Christopher Markoff, 2nd place Claudia Sparschu, 3rd place Janet Griffin, 4th place Sue Jones. Congratulations winners!

Joann Twigg will host on February 14. Let Joann know you are coming- [jmeetup3@gmail.com](mailto:jmeetup3@gmail.com).

We need a hostess for March and April 2026.

## **Ladies Game Night – Jill Miceli, Activity Leader**



Game night is a fun night of beginner-friendly games that the hostess chooses. Each month we have a hostess; she picks a date and plans the games to play that night. Light refreshments are served. If you attend regularly but do not host, it is asked that you offer to bring something to help out the hostess.

Darcel Connors will host Wednesday, January 7 at 7:00. Please let Darcel know if you are able to attend. Her number is 248-396-5371 or email her at [darcelc@prodigy.net](mailto:darcelc@prodigy.net).

I am looking for a hostess for February. If you would like to pick a date, please let Jill know.

### **Mah Jongg – Jane Egermann, Activity Leader**

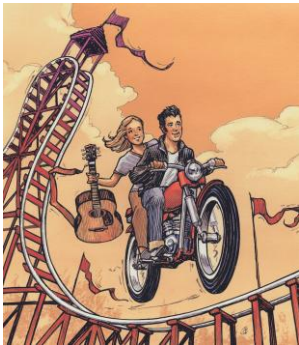


If you worried that, as a newbie to mah jongg you couldn't expect success, you need to meet Alvina McMahon. She came for the first time in November and went mah jongg four times in a row! (The woman is a joker magnet!)

You too can experience success at this game. All you need to do is come on January 9th at 9:30 am or January 23rd at 1 pm. We'll be glad to let you meet a friendly group of people, offer you some yummy treats (at the 9:30 session), and, oh, by the way, teach you the game.

We meet at the home of Jane Egermann. Please let Jane know if you plan to attend or need directions to her house. Her email is [jane48085@yahoo.com](mailto:jane48085@yahoo.com).

### **Meadowbrook Ushering – Michele Burns & Joann Twigg , Activity Leaders**



Our next performance is ALL SHOOK UP! It is a crowd-pleasing musical inspired by and featuring the songs of Elvis Presley. It's 1955, and into a square little town in a square little state rides a guitar-playing young man who changes everything and everyone he meets in this hip-swiveling, lip-curling musical fantasy that'll have you jumpin' out of your blue suede shoes.

Our dates to usher run from Wednesday, January 21 to Sunday, January 25, 2026. Please arrive at the theatre 45 minutes prior to showtime and remain in the lobby for instructions. Remember, if you are unable to make your commitment, it is up to you to find a replacement from the sub list provided. Some of our ushers may be snow birds this winter, so please look at supporting them by stepping in and ushering. It's a great opportunity for the subs to enjoy a performance!

### **Pickle Ball – Michele Burns, Activity Leader**



Pickleball got off to a rough start this session with the first day being cancelled due to the snow. The second week was fun but then we were off for 2 weeks due to the holidays. Everyone is looking forward to getting back into the swing of things in January (and hopefully having no more snow days!)



## **Scrapbooking – Darcel Connors, Activity Leader**



We will be scrapbooking at the home of Darcel Connors on Monday, January 26th from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. You may bring any craft item you are working on if you do not scrapbook. You are welcome to bring a sack lunch; Darcel will provide snacks and drinks.

Please let Darcel know if will be joining her by emailing [darcelc@prodigy.net](mailto:darcelc@prodigy.net).

## **Somerset Golf League 2026 Season** **Debbie Risko & Karen Hrit, Activity Leaders**



Looking forward to the next season starting in the spring of 2026.

## **Sylvan Glen Golf League 2026 Season – Gail Trendler, Activity Leader**



Stay tuned for information regarding the 2026 golf season.

## **Widows Group, Karen Gard, Activity Leader**



Our 2nd Widows Group meeting was held on Tuesday, 12.2.25. We welcomed two new members, bringing our group to a total of twelve. The focus of our December meeting was dealing with the holidays and we delved deeper into the loss of our significant others.

Our next meeting will be another potluck at the home of Kathie Mardyla on 3.24.26 starting at 6:30 pm. All those who have lost a partner are welcome. If you would like to participate in this group, please send your name, email address and cell phone number to me at [kgard7@comcast.net](mailto:kgard7@comcast.net) or via cell: 248.506.7412. You will be added to our text string and sent additional information for our March 24<sup>th</sup> gathering. If you have any questions about this group, feel free to call or text me at any time.

With gratitude, Karen Gard

## **Winetasting, Ann Britton – Activity Leader**



There are no wine tastings scheduled for January, February or March. If anyone is interested in hosting a February or March wine tasting, please contact Ann Britton at [annandjim@comcast.net](mailto:annandjim@comcast.net).

If you are interested in trying some new wines, enjoying good conversation and sampling a selection of appetizers and pot luck type dishes, consider attending a wine tasting evening. Each wine tasting evening is hosted by a Troy Newcomer member. Wine Tasting evenings are held once a month. The members attending may bring a spouse or friend, along with an appetizer, their wine glasses and \$10 per wine drinker which will contribute to the cost of the wine. Those who do not drink wine are welcome to attend contributing an appetizer but are not asked to pay the \$10. Everyone brings their own wine glass. The hostess chooses the wines she would like to serve. The hostess supplies the coffee and desserts. This is held once a month on a Friday or Saturday evening of the hostess's choice beginning at 6:30pm.







# January 2026

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1 Happy New Year	2	3
4	5	6	7 Pickle Ball Games Night	8 Bowling Board Meeting	9 Mah Jongg	10
11	12 Morning Euchre	13	14 Pickle Ball	15 Bowling	16	17 Evening Euchre
18	19	20	21 Pickle Ball Ushering Book Club	22 Bowling Luncheon Ushering	23 Mah Jongg Ushering	24 Ushering
25 Ushering	26 Scrapbooking	27	28 Pickle Ball	29 Bowling	30	31

Notes

	<b>Board of Directors</b>	
President	Marie Watson	<a href="mailto:president@troynewcomers.com">president@troynewcomers.com</a>
1st VP Programs	Gail Trendler	<a href="mailto:luncheons@troynewcomers.com">luncheons@troynewcomers.com</a>
2nd VP Luncheons	Barb Shimoura	<a href="mailto:luncheons@troynewcomers.com">luncheons@troynewcomers.com</a>
Advisor	Darcel Connors	<a href="mailto:advisor@troynewcomers.com">advisor@troynewcomers.com</a>
Business Luncheon Secretary	Karen Patterson	<a href="mailto:luncheonsecretary@troynewcomers.com">luncheonsecretary@troynewcomers.com</a>
Fundraising	OPEN	<a href="mailto:fundraising@troynewcomers.com">fundraising@troynewcomers.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Darcel Connors	<a href="mailto:newslettereditor@troynewcomers.com">newslettereditor@troynewcomers.com</a>
Membership Secretary	Martha Brosseau	<a href="mailto:membership@troynewcomers.com">membership@troynewcomers.com</a>
Publicity	OPEN	<a href="mailto:publicity@troynewcomers.com">publicity@troynewcomers.com</a>
Recording Secretary	Lynn Sarosik	<a href="mailto:recordingsecretary@troynewcomers.com">recordingsecretary@troynewcomers.com</a>
Service	Michele Burns	<a href="mailto:service@troynewcomers.com">service@troynewcomers.com</a>
	Eileen Winkel	
Socials	Karen Gard	<a href="mailto:socials@troynewcomers.com">socials@troynewcomers.com</a>
	Diana Alexanian	
Treasurer	Martha Brosseau	<a href="mailto:treasurer@troynewcomers.com">treasurer@troynewcomers.com</a>
Website	Barb Emmer	<a href="mailto:website@troynewcomers.com">website@troynewcomers.com</a>
	<b>Committee Leaders</b>	
50/50 Luncheon Raffle	Gina Kossick	
Advertising	Darcel Connors	<a href="mailto:advisor@troynewcomers.com">advisor@troynewcomers.com</a>
Kick Off Committee	Marie Watson	<a href="mailto:clubactivities@troynewcomers.com">clubactivities@troynewcomers.com</a>
Membership Directory	Martha Brosseau	<a href="mailto:membership@troynewcomers.com">membership@troynewcomers.com</a>
Interviewer	Kathy Holm	<a href="mailto:interviewer@troynewcomers.com">interviewer@troynewcomers.com</a>
Newsletter Distribution	Darcel Connors	<a href="mailto:newslettereditor@troynewcomers.com">newslettereditor@troynewcomers.com</a>
	<b>Activity Leaders</b>	
Book Club	Janet Gole	<a href="mailto:bookclub@troynewcomers.com">bookclub@troynewcomers.com</a>
Bowling, Ladies	Darcel Connors	<a href="mailto:ladiesbowling@troynewcomers.com">ladiesbowling@troynewcomers.com</a>
Culinary Club	Lynn Sarosik	<a href="mailto:recordingsecretary@troynewcomers.com">recordingsecretary@troynewcomers.com</a>
	Monica DiMaggio	
Euchre, Daytime	Gina Kossick	<a href="mailto:ladieseuchre@troynewcomers.com">ladieseuchre@troynewcomers.com</a>
Euchre, Evening	Darlene Glaze	<a href="mailto:eveningeuchre@troynewcomers.com">eveningeuchre@troynewcomers.com</a>
Golf Somerset	Karen Hrit	<a href="mailto:golfsomerset@troynewcomers.com">golfsomerset@troynewcomers.com</a>
	Debbie Risko	
Golf, Sylvan Glen	Gail Trendler	<a href="mailto:golfsylvanglen@troynewcomers.com">golfsylvanglen@troynewcomers.com</a>
Ladies Game Night	Jill Miceli	<a href="mailto:gamenight@troynewcomers.com">gamenight@troynewcomers.com</a>
Mah Jongg	Jane Egermann	<a href="mailto:mahjongg@troynewcomers.com">mahjongg@troynewcomers.com</a>
Meadowbrook Theater Ushers	Michele Burns	<a href="mailto:meadowbrook@troynewcomers.com">meadowbrook@troynewcomers.com</a>
	Joann Twigg	
Pickle Ball	Michele Burns	<a href="mailto:pickleball@troynewcomers.com">pickleball@troynewcomers.com</a>
Scrapbooking	Darcel Connors	<a href="mailto:scrapbooking@troynewcomers.com">scrapbooking@troynewcomers.com</a>
Widows Group	Karen Gard	<a href="mailto:widowsgroup@troynewcomers.com">widowsgroup@troynewcomers.com</a>
Wine Tasting	Ann Britton	<a href="mailto:winetasting@troynewcomers.com">winetasting@troynewcomers.com</a>





