

Newcomer Club of the Foothills

Happy New Year Newcomers!

By now the holidays are a memory--the tinsel and decorations are put away, cookies and candy have been consumed, parties are over, family has returned home and we plunge into a new year. Would you have imagined 10 years ago you'd be living in the Upstate of South Carolina in 2011? Just as we couldn't imagine being here 10 years ago, we can't imagine being anywhere else 10 years from now! This is HOME. We hope you've settled into your house enough to feel like home. We hope you've made close friends, met great neighbors and gotten involved in our community and can truly call this home. We hope you have good health and prosperity in the upcoming year. And We hope you will have peace and love.

A new year is a great time to look back and be grateful for all the blessings in our lives. More than two thirds of the world's population can't imagine a lifestyle like ours; they can't imagine having a home of their own with heat and plenty of food. They can't imagine the dilemma of whether to golf or go boating today. They can't imagine what a vacation is or a day without hunger or a day free from pain or disease. Many are without hope and many live right here amongst us.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 4, 2011 (9:30 a.m.)

General Membership Meeting

Volunteerism highlighting The Golden Corner Food Pantry, Our Daily Rest, and Friends of Lake Keowee (FOLKS)

February 1, 2011 (9:30 a.m.)

State Senator Thomas Alexander

So, we hope you will join us in finding a way to help those around us who are in need...to bring hope. This month we will focus on the many needs in our community and offer some tangible ways we can help. The needs are overwhelming and we may not be able to do everything, but we can do something--especially together. We may not be able to change anyone's life--but guarantee it can change ours.

Let's continue to make the Newcomer Club more than a great place to have fun...let's also make it a great place to serve!

Jim and Dianne Henderson,
Co-Presidents

DECEMBER HOLIDAY MIXER

The DECEMBER meeting of the Newcomer Club was a HOLIDAY MIXER at Occasions at Wedgefield in Center. We had a great turnout, with great appetizers, dinner, and dancing.

The Graduate Newcomer club was invited to join in the fun. The 2nd and 3rd year newcomers got to spend the evening visiting with some old friends in the graduate group.

Thanks, Jane, for all your hard work. We really enjoyed the evening!



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ACTIVITY GROUP NEWS

Activity Group (Footloose in the Foothills) members working at the Food Pantry. Once a week, we pack boxes with food for the "Brown Bag Monday" program, which is held every Monday morning for needy seniors in our community.

This is a wonderful service project and we would like to suggest that other Activity Groups consider getting involved here. They really need more volunteers.

In the first picture, Tom Lund (on the left) and our esteemed co-president, Jim Henderson are storing the finished boxes for next Monday and getting even more boxes started.

In the second picture, Melodie Graham, Ilene Lund, Dianne Henderson (also co-president) and Dennis.....our "boss" are pictured as they pack the "Monday Boxes."

We all have a great time there and we urge others to get involved.



COMMUNITY GROUP NEWS

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Clemson University

Because curiosity has no age limit!



The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Clemson University will be hosting its Spring 2011 Kick-Off Event on January 28, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at St. Mark United Methodist Church in Seneca. Everyone welcome!

OLLI annual membership fee is \$15. Course and excursion fees vary. For

information call OLLI at 864-656-6912 or visit our website at www.clemson.edu/OLLI.



The second meeting of the OLLI Book Club will meet tomorrow, Friday, December 10, 2010. The club will meet at the Clemson Central Library located at 102 Commons Way in Central from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For directions, call the library at (864)639-2711.

Because this club is a work in progress, participating members will be asked to contribute to its formation. We are considering having a different theme and/or genre for each month. In addition to current best sellers, possibilities include mysteries, non-fiction, science-fiction, and Nobel Prize winners. Also, we need the members to make decisions on the club's format and how it should be run. We need your input and ideas!

Our December selection is by respected contemporary author, Barbara Kingsolver. The Lacuna is unique in that it is often considered to be two separate stories that revolve around the life of Harri-

son W. Shepherd, son of an American father working in Washington, D.C. and his Mexican wife. When his parents divorce, Harrison's mother takes him to live in Mexico. His life is an odyssey of a lonely little boy who grows up to become a well-respected author living in Asheville, North Carolina. Along his journey, he associates with and works for Diego Rivera, Frida Kahlo and their comrade, Leon Trotsky. After Trotsky's assassination and Shepard's return to the United States, Shepherd finds himself caught up in the fear and fanaticism of the McCarthy era. He experiences the degradation of being blacklisted and shunned by a community that once applauded him. This historical fiction is challenging reading and our group discussion should be quite interesting.

If you cannot attend the December session but are interested in future attendance, please email the OLLI office at OLLI@clemson.edu, subject: book club.

COMMUNITY GROUP NEWS

GUARDIAN AD LITEM

A new training session begins in January for anyone that is interested in becoming a volunteer Guardian ad Litem for abused and neglected children.

The Oconee GAL program will be having their free 30 hour training session starting January 4 starting at 9:00 am. Please contact Debra Johnson at 638-2267 for more information.

FRIEND OF THE LIBRARY

Feeling the economic pinch? Take advantage of two large rooms of used books at the monthly Friends of the Library Book Sale. Every second Thursday of each month, the FOL Book Sale is held in the basement of the Walhalla Library on Broad St. Loads of mysteries, fiction, non-fiction, children's books, video tapes, DVD's, CD's, magazines and reference books are sold at bargain prices. Join us from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on January 13, 2011. All book sales benefit the Oconee County Libraries.

WRITERS INK

Residents interested in sharing their creative writing - fiction, non-fiction, poetry, or chapters of memoirs and novels - are welcome to join Writers Ink. The group meets twice a month from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. on the first and third Friday in member homes.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, January 21, 2011, at Jane Hughey's home.

Writers Ink has published its third Anthology. Copies are on display at the Keowee Key Library in the Activity Center and in Oconee County libraries. To purchase a copy (\$10), contact Jan Villa at 719-0157.

For further information, contact Margret Nordquist at 944-6334, or send email to margreto61836@bellsouth.net.

TRI-COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE TRAVELS!

Join us and explore history and the local area and have fun while learning. Let us take care of the hassles of planning and preparing for a trip. All you need to do is make a phone call or go online to register and pay and we'll take care of the rest. Just sit back and enjoy your day! Prices vary depending on the trip. Cost will include travel by deluxe motor coach, required admission fees and guide for the day unless otherwise noted. Registration deadlines are 2 weeks prior to event. Visit <http://www.tctc.edu/learn> for complete descriptions and prices.

02/18 Friday
Toulouse - Lautrec at the High Museum
Atlanta, GA

03/05 Saturday
Billy Graham Library
Charlotte, NC

03/26 Saturday
Pearl Fryar's Topiary Gardens-
Bishopville, SC and
Finlay Park
Columbia, SC

04/30 Saturday
Biltmore House Festival of Flowers
Asheville, NC

05/14 Saturday
Blue Sky and SC State Museum
Columbia, SC

COMMUNITY GROUP NEWS

FOOTHILLS CHORALE AUDITIONS AND CONCERTS

Thank-you for supporting our very successful Christmas Concert, and we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did!



We have received many inquiries from people who would like to join the Foothills Chorale. If you are a singer, and would like to sing with the Chorale, auditions are being held the evening of Tuesday, January 11, at our rehearsal venue, Clemson Downs, Clemson. Interested? Contact our choral director, Bill Diekhoff, by email: bill@foothillschorale.org or phone (864) 287-2236 for more details and arrange an audition time.

Our Spring concert, "Those Wondrous Mystical Isles" - 3:00 PM, Sunday, May 1 will be at Southern Wesleyan University, Central in their new auditorium. Our program will include beautiful songs, from long ago to the present from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales the last 50 years.

Tickets: \$15 Adults; \$6 Students.

1. Contact Howard King 944-6565, or any Foothills Chorale member. No handling fee! Please provide cash or check payable to "Foothills Chorale".
2. By credit card via our secure website or phone: www.foothillschorale.org, or from our toll-free number: 1-888-937-4642. Handling fee of \$2 per total order.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Swingtime in the Springtime
Ed Polcer's All Stars present.

A Benefit Concert for
Oconee County Habitat for Humanity

7:30 PM Thursday April 14, 2011

Walhalla Civic Auditorium

Ticket Price \$20 Admit one

To Order Tickets: Send check made out to OCHFH

Plus SASE to: Wes Koch, 1318 Stillwater Dr.,

Seneca, SC 29672 or email:

WesKoch@gmail.com

SWEET ADELINES



December concert of Sweet Adelines in Anderson.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Construction at 503 Sunrise Drive in Seneca is progressing at a good clip thanks to the many volunteers from Schneider Electric's plant in Seneca. The house is being built in partnership with Schneider Electric and should be completed by the middle of January 2011.

Volunteers interested in construction work can contact Mary Sue Plague at 944-6888 or send email to c-msplague@earthlink.net

Landscaping of homes at 311 and 317 Zion Hill Road in Seneca was completed early in December. We want to thank Lee Jackson and his landscaping crew as well as volunteers from Schneider Electric for their hard work. Special thanks to John Cothran of Rainmaker Ponds & Irrigation and Hardscapes Plus for all the time, equipment and manpower he has donated to landscape Habitat for Humanity



homes in Oconee County over the past two years.

Volunteers interested in garden landscaping can call Lee Jackson at (864) 784-0263, or email scleejackson@gmail.com.

(Photo Caption: Landscaping of 2 OCHFH homes on Zion Hill Road, Seneca).

Other Volunteer Opportunities:

◆Construction Managers for stick-built homes, certified electrician, plumbers, and skilled

carpenters. Call or email Shepherd Chuites, (864) 647-8271, sjchuites@yahoo.com.

◆Volunteers for Modular Home Set-Up crew. Call or email Bill Banholzer (864) 888-2127, williambanholzer221@earthlink.net.

◆Volunteers for pick-up truck crew. Call the Resale Store at (864) 888-2118.

◆Co-Chair for Public Awareness and/or Digital Photo Library Coordinator. Call Margret Nordquist (864) 944-6334, ochfho7@bellsouth.net.

Resale Store

130 Bountyland Road, Seneca
(864) 888-2118

The Store will reopen on Wednesday, January 5, 2011.

Store hours are Wed, Thu, Fri 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Sat 10:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon.

Thanks to all customers, donors and volunteers for another successful year. Seven new families received Habitat homes in 2010.

The store needs and appreciates donations of just about everything, especially furniture and appliances. Dishes, bric-a-brac, paintings, jewelry, draperies, linens, bedspreads, books, games, garden items, tools, toys etc. are also welcome. Items can be dropped off at Receiving behind the Resale Store during store hours.

For pick-up of donated furniture, cabinets, countertops, appliances, and bathroom fixtures call (864) 888-2118. Pick-ups are available in Oconee and Pickens Counties year-round. Used cars, trucks, boats and boat trailers in working condition are also accepted.

OCHFH offers help to homeowners or heirs of sold homes clearing the house of all unwanted furniture and/or furnishings. Call (864) 888-2118 for further information. All donations are tax deductible and are helping build more homes for needy families in Oconee County

OCONEE COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Two modular homes on Zion Hill Road in Seneca were landscaped by volunteers on October 8 and 9, 2010. OCHFH Landscape Coordinator, Lee Jackson, assigned jobs to the volunteers and lent a helping hand where necessary.

On Friday, trees, bushes and grasses sourced from Head Lee Nursery and the SC Botanical Gardens were planted. On Saturday, mulch was spread, and John Cothrane from Rainmaker Ponds and his crew leveled the ground for the lawns. Volunteers spread the grass seed and covered the seeded area with straw.

Two stick-built homes across the road will be landscaped on December 4, 2010.

To volunteer, call or email Lee Jackson (864) 784-0263, scleejackson@gmail.com



Landscaped Habitat for Humanity home at 312 Zion Hill Road.



L-R - Purdy Gersch, family partner, Waylon & Christina Oakley, Mory Ranck at the dedication ceremony of 317 Zion Hill Road.



Construction Supervisor Mory Ranck, Waylon & Christina Oakley (317 Zion Hill Rd.), Fatima Jones & son Faizhon Reid (311 Zion Hill Road). OCHFH President Karen Graves



Mory Ranck, construction supervisor, with Fatima Jones and son Faizhon on the steps of her new home at 311 Zion Hill Road, Seneca



NEWSLETTER EDITOR / PUBLISHER:

This is a fun job for someone who knows a bit about desktop publishing and layout. Currently, it is produced on a MAC in Pages, but could be done on a PC. Contact Rita Moore at 944-2535 or ritagardenia@yahoo.com.

WEBSITE:

Currently done on Apple iWeb program on a Macintosh. Most of the work is done prior to the August newcomer meeting. Contact information has to be updated for those people who leave newcomers and the new ones taking over a position of responsibility (e.g., heading an interest or activity group). The monthly newsletter is currently archived as a PDF on the website. This is a fun job, not too demanding and encourages you learn something new. Contact Rita Moore at 944-2535 or ritagardenia@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEER HELPER

Are you interested in making new friends? Volunteer to help Jane Skolnick at our three Newcomer Club Social Events. Contact Jane at 864-719-0146.

Newcomer Club Contacts

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