



SPROCKET

Breakfast Rotary Club of New Bern

Chartered May 9, 1985

Meets Thursday 7:30 a.m.

Bakers Kitchen



District Governor:
Lewis Hoggard

March 24, 2022

2021-22 President: Barry Lutz
BarryjLutz@yahoo.com



Bonnie is the president of the Newcomers Alumni Assoc. She received a BA degree from the University of Texas after 15 years of night school.

She is delighted to speak. Barton has suffered through her talk many times. Sandy Swigert founded this club. She joined the Chamber and was asked to be the Welcome Wagon chairman. She introduced those coming to New Bern to meet each other. A group of those encouraged Sandy to start a Newcomers group.


They have met in progressively larger sites because the group was growing so much. Sandy decided when the club reached over 1,000 members she set a three year limit to membership and formed an alumni club for those who wanted to continue to meet.

The membership now is about 600 in the combination of the two clubs. People magazine heard about the club and interviewed Sandy. Neither of the clubs wanted to be interviewed, fearing they would want to change the club. Also, a Newbernian woman complained to Sandy one time that they thought the Newcomers Club was doing a disservice to New Bern. That there were plenty of ways people new to the area could get to know each other and the area in the already existing clubs. Sandy declined and let her know the Newcomers Club would continue as is.

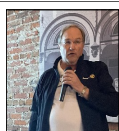
Bonnie became involved when she moved here to be near her son and family. She called Sandy who came to her with coupons and a suggestion she come to one of the meetings. Since there was going to be a social in December instead of a usual meeting Sandy invited her to their Christmas social. Bonnie gave her a membership check and a check for the holiday party. She let Sandy know later that her husband, Wes, was suffering from Alzheimers and they should probably not go to the party. Sandy countered with them sitting at a table with three other couples whom she had informed about the situation and she and Wes should come. They did and Wes even danced and had a great time. She and a woman at the table exchanged numbers and soon met at Bonnie's for coffee and Bakers Kitchen muffins. The woman insisted on helping with Wes by providing a weekly outing for them and eventually just Bonnie.

After Wes's passing Bonnie jumped into many of the activities of Newcomers. She became secretary, treasurer, vice-president of programs (once a month), and now Alumni Association. Newcomers is all about entertaining themselves. Once a year they do make a donation to a local non-profit. They also donated the bear at the Cub House on Pollock Street.

Many of her friends had come from the singles part of Newcomers. A member called her about a dinner coming up in Havelock which she went to. She sat across the table from Barton. He mentioned he was not being a very successful time with Newcomers. Bonnie fixed that right away.

And Barton fixed the rest. He called the next day after receiving the tennis information he needed reminding Bonnie she had said they could get together for coffee some day. He asked if they could change it to lunch and when — she said today and yes. After he asked her to walk around town for a while. She said yes. He said he really like to hold hands—would she like to do that and she said yes. In her words, they have been holding hands every since. 

Important Announcements



New Meeting Format Brant

- What did you learn during the social time? David Whitley noticed Ed Moore's designer socks.
- Thirsty Thursday will be the first Thursday in every month starting in April. We will meet at Blackbeard's 5 to 7 PM. With a Rotary shirt or pin you will receive a 30% discount on all non-alcoholic items.
- Starting in May the first Thursday meeting will be Zoom.
- We will have committee announcements at the Zoom meeting with important issues mentioned at all meetings.
- We will have more activities like the cookies for first responders.
- CART will continue every week.



President's Message

Barry

Thanks to all who helped with the meeting today

Remember to mark your calendar for the 4/28 social. You are asked to bring at least 1 prospective member with you. It will be held at the Fairfield Harbour Community Center. Daylight savings time will be in force, so plenty of light for driving there and back. Further incentive: adult and other beverages are provided!!!!

Guests

Barbara

- Tom Curtis, Allen's brother
- Trey Ferguson, Brant's guest

Announcement

Richlands Rotary Event

Bob

A reverse drawing, \$100 for two steak 4/2 at 6:00 pm. Prizes are: 1st drawn gets the cost of the ticket refunded, drawing 2—24 are just out of the game, 25 ticket pulled gets a nice door prize TBD. The last person drawn wins \$5,000. You have to be there to eat but not to win. Check with Bob 910-330-4962.

Fundraising

Janet

The shredding event has been blessed by those necessary in the city government. It is listed on NewBernNow and some of you have been asked to get the word out to your neighborhood. If anyone else has a local mailing list they would can help with, please let me know.

Would those who have helped with traffic flow please call me?

Grants

Jeff

Jennifer Mathias from Canine for Service group fount of Wilmington joined us via Zoom. She said we were the best group ever. David, the trainer who was with her, wanted to know if they were coming back to accept the check. They have taken in five new puppies to the program. In three weeks they will partner a dog with a vet from Charlotte. At the end of May they will partner another. Jennifer thanked us enthusiastically for our grant.



Other...

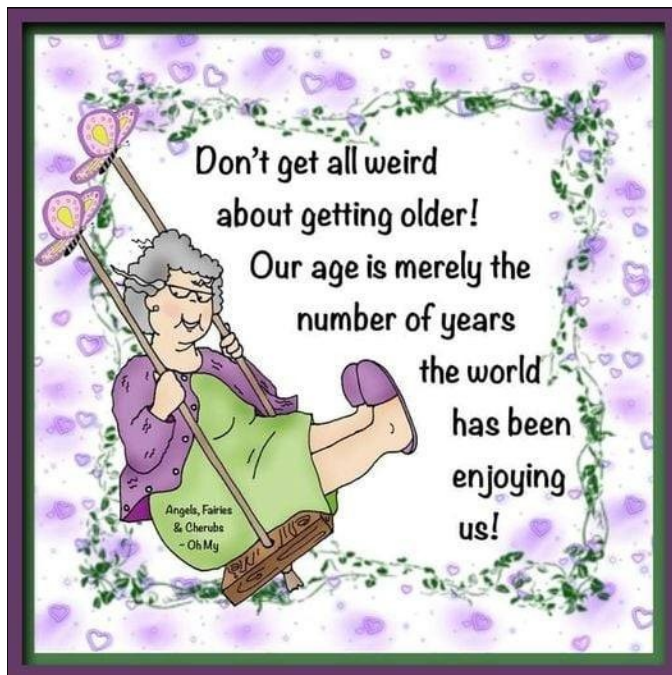
Our Rotary Club



Joe



Nice crowd today!



50/50 Raffle

*Bonnie drew
ticket valued at
\$18 for lunch
money*



*NOT Barton!!
Allen's brother,
Tom, is the
winner!*

*The queen still
holds \$380.*