

Kalamazoo Area Newcomers Club

July/August 2024

Celebrating 84 Years of Service

Kalamazoo, Michigan

WELCOME SUMMER 

Greetings from Patricia Niewoonder, President



We are definitely into the heart of summer in Michigan - even though we have had temps in the 90's and storms that have taken out power and trees, festivals and celebrations still go on in our wonderful community. I hope you take the time to explore all that is happening.

By now, you will have received a gentle reminder from Nancy Greer for your membership renewal for FY 2024-25. Our dues remain at \$20 which cover our annual expenses - mailing and printing of our directory, birthday celebrations, web services, publications/advertising, special events, etc. We have not raised our dues in many years - thanks to the hard work of our Board who try to keep our expenses in line. I think you will find we are the best bargain in town!

The KANC Board is always looking for ways to serve our membership better, and this Fall we will be surveying our membership about their likes and interests and we will asking for suggestions as to how we can serve you better. So don't be surprised when one or two of our Board members show up at your Bridge group, or at the "out to lunch bunch" or at euchre game to get you to fill out this short survey.

Finally, please put the date of September 19 on your calendar. It is our first luncheon of the new fiscal year. I have not been told where the luncheon will be held nor who is speaking (the Luncheons/Programs Committee is keeping it a secret for now) but I have been assured we will be supremely impressed. It is always a fun time.

That's all for now. See you in September!

**Volunteering Adventures:
Will not be gathering in July or August**

First Day Shoe Fund

The KANC Board has selected the "First Day Shoe Fund (FDSF)" as our charity partner for 2024-2025. Supported by our 50/50 raffle, held at our monthly luncheons, we are delighted to support this worthwhile charity once again. Perhaps several of you were able to volunteer to sort shoes in June as Holly Vestal coordinated our Volunteer Adventure Group.

For those who are unfamiliar with FDSF, it is a local, grassroots initiative whose mission is to provide children in the Kalamazoo area with new shoes throughout the school year. The charity was chosen because of the great need for many students in the Kalamazoo Public Schools whose families don't have the resources to provide adequate shoes. Also, the fund does not have a large budget or funding source and our contribution to the fund will make a world of difference to many students.



The KANC Volunteer Adventure
Team helping this June

Special Interest Groups

Evening Book Group

Suzette Ross 269-501-0847 or suzross2@gmail.com

The evening book group met in June at the Portage Public Library. Sara ,from the library, presented ideas and book suggestions for book clubs. 12 books were voted on by the evening book group attendees. Everyone is welcome to join the evening book group. Contact Suzette, text or email, for questions, or RSVP suzross2@gmail.com 269-501-0847

EVENING BOOK GROUP 2024/25 TIME 5:30 MEETING PLACE , PARKVIEW HILLS LIBRARY

BOOK	DATE	BOOK LEADER
MAD HONEY by Jennifer Finney Boylan and Joe Picot	Monday, July 1st	Suzette Ross
I CHEERFULLY REFUSE by Leif Enger	Mon, Aug 5th	Kathy Roberts
THE WOMEN by Kristin Hannah	Thursday, Sept 5th	
LAST BUS TO WISDOM by Ivan Doig	Monday, Oct 7th	Tracy Buschert
THE GOOD LORD BIRD by James McBride	Monday, Nov 4th	Barb Starring
THE WIDE WIDE SEA by Hampton Sides	Monday, Dec 2nd	Patty Litwiller
FLEISHMAN IS IN TROUBLE by Taffy Broesser-Aknur	Monday, Jan 6th	
WANDERING STARS by Tommy Orange	Mon, Feb 3rd	Holly Vestal
THE HEIRESS: A NOVEL by Rachel Hawkins	Monday, March 3rd	Diane Wenger
guest speaker from Library	Mon April 7th	Patty Litwiller
NORTH WOODS by Daniel Mason	Mon, May 5th	
THE HUMMINGBIRDS DAUGHTER by Luis Alberto Urrea	Mon, June 2nd	
JAMES by Percival Everett	Mon, July 1st	

Special Interest Groups

Euchre

Linda Vanderberg 269~254~2936

Come join the gang and play Euchre. Don't know how to play? We will teach you .

Everyone welcome !

Tuesday~July 2 and July 16

Tuesday ~ August 6 and 20

Time: 1-3 p.m.

Where: Huntington Run Clubhouse

Any questions, call or text Linda

Diners Club

Kathleen Smothers 269-615-7054

Paula Lucking 630-632-7771

Let's enjoy another evening on the patio, this time we will meet on **Monday, July 15th**

@5pm at "The HUB," which is downtown on The Mall- 359 S Kalamazoo Mall, This is also a Millennium Group Restaurant, so if you haven't signed up for your discount, you can do this online, or at the restaurant.

On Wednesday, August 14th, let's venture just 30 minutes north for happy hour at "Dog and the Bank" in Plainwell.

We will meet there @4pm this time. Hopefully we will again be on the patio. Please RSVP, and if you would like to carpool to either location, or have any questions, don't hesitate to give **Kathleen 269-615-7054, or Paula (630) 632-7771 a call.**

Breakfast Club

Esther Cetina 269~254~5729

Karla Stanley 269~744~1917

Martine Goddeyne 269~873~8864

Nancy Greer will host breakfast club on **Saturday, July 20 at Bob Evans at 9:30.** Please everyone RSVP to NANCY— Text please 269-599-8495. Hope to see you all there.

Out to Lunch Bunch

Dannie Hickson 269~720~0504

Nita Comensoli 269~598~2497

Lunch bunch will not be meeting in July or August. We look forward to having you join us in the Fall.

Have a wonderful summer

Bunco

Angela Sawyer 434~996~1776

Bunco will not be meeting in July and August. We will start up playing again in September.

Garden Group and Beyond

Donna Ring 269~270~1337

Nancy Stern 269~598~3638

Join for a trip to beautiful Lavender Life Farm in Caledonia. Meet in Target parking lot on **West Main (west side) at 9:30 Wednesday, July 24 .**You may also drive separately. We will listen to a presentation about the farm and then wander the lavender fields, greenhouse, bakery and gift shop. Lunch in Caledonia TBD. **Need RSVP by July 14 — Contact Nancy Stern or Donna Ring**

Special Interest Groups

Happy Hour

Patty Litwiller 586~243-8886
Linda Vanderberg 269~254~2936

July 3 at Fletchers Pub located at 6946 West Q Ave on July 12, 4:00 pm. . Can't come at 4. Join us at 5.

AUGUST 7—Same location same time same fun!

Please RSVP Patty Litwiller or Linda Vanderberg so we have tables seating for all.

Afternoon Bridge

Susan Luskin 630-303-0146

July 8 - Linda Kubinski will be our hostess
July 22 - Nancy Jones will be our hostess
August 12 - Susan Lushin will be our hostess
August 26 - Micki Verne will be our hostess
Afternoon Bridge is a great time!

Location will be determined by the hostess. If you have signed up to play, the hostess will be contacting you to determine how many tables and where we will be playing. We start usually meet at a restaurant and have lunch before we play. We start playing bridge at 12:30 Contact Susan Lushin if interested in joining!

Friends, Food and Fun

Carol Beckius 269~372~6950
Marilyn Jauch 269~372~7751

On **Saturday, July 13th** we will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the **Texas Corners Fletcher's** located at 6946 Q Ave. Please call or text Carol or Marilyn by Thursday, July 11th.

Jac's at 3112 S. 9th St. is our destination for **Saturday, August 10th** at 5:30 p.m. Please call or text Carol or Marilyn by Thursday, August 8th. Hope to see you there!

Hiking/Biking/ XC Skiing

Patty Litwiller 586~243~8886
Nancy Stern 269~598~3638

JULY

We will be biking the **Lakeshore Trail** on **July 9**. This paved trail runs north from Holland. This is a new one for this group! Plan to meet in the parking lot at Tunnel Park, 66 N. Lakeshore Ave, Holland, ready to ride at 10AM. We can ride till we feel like turning around (though the trail extends for about 20 miles north.) Once back at Tunnel Park, we will have lunch in the Holland area. All are welcome!

AUGUST

Join us for one of our seasonal favorites on **August 13**- a bike ride on the KalHaven Trail, followed by blueberry picking at Brookside Farms in Gobles. Meet at the KalHaven parking area at 207 W Kalamazoo St, Bloomingdale, ready to ride at 10AM. We will ride west on the KalHaven Trail until the group decides to turn around, returning to the parking area in Bloomingdale. We will drive just a few miles to Brookside Farms, 37988 Co Rd 388, Gobles to pick delicious blueberries and eat our packed sack lunch (BYO lunch)

Sit and Stitch

Charlotte Hosking 269~372~2430

We're taking a break during July and August from our usual meetings at Chicks with Sticks.

Instead, we'll meet for lunch on Friday, August 16th at 11:30am at Four Roses in Plainwell. For once, it is absolutely essential that everyone who plans to attend RSVP to Charlotte by email at cj.hosking@gmail.com or call 269-372-2430 by August 14th.

We will be back at Chicks with Sticks in September.

Book Nook

Charlotte Hosking 269~372~2430

Come join us on the third Monday of every month at 10am in the dining room at Parkview Hills Clubhouse.

We are always happy to welcome new friends, whether or not you've read the book or liked it! There is no need to RSVP. Questions, call Charlotte.

July 15 ~The Dictionary of Lost Words by Pip Williams

Leader - Lois Loeffler

In 1901, the word 'Bondmaid' was discovered missing from the Oxford English Dictionary. This is the story of the girl who stole it. Set when the women's suffrage movement was at its height and the Great War loomed, The Dictionary of Lost Words reveals a lost narrative, hidden between the lines of a history written by men. It's a delightful, lyrical and deeply thought-provoking celebration of words, and the power of language to shape the world and our experience of it.

August 19~ Prague Winter: A Personal Story of Remembrance and War 1937-1948 by Madeline Albright

Leader - Patricia Niewoonder

September 16~James by Percival Everett and The Adventures of Huckleberry

Finn by Mark Twain

Coping with Everyday Life — Sylvia Blum — Will not be meeting in July, August.

Arts/Entertainment and More - Linda Vanderberg /Patty Litwiller

is taking a break for July/August. Watch for many exciting events starting in September.

A little bit of KANC history

84 years have passed since Ann Ewing Smith set out to develop a business group to offer services to those new in the community. The A.E.S Hostess Service would serve as a personalized advertising business she could offer to new residents in Kalamazoo. Quickly discovering the women she encountered had a need to socialize and form friendships with other women and young mothers, the hostess service served as a catalyst for the KANC. For the first 30-plus years, the group partnered with the YWCA, utilizing the organization's downtown building as a meeting place, as well as for services such as child care. As more women entered the workforce, the group grew to its peak membership of 400-plus members in the 1970s when it severed ties with the YWCA and became an independent nonprofit focused on the needs of women in the community

JULY Birthdays 🎂

7/3 Donna Lindsay
 7/4 Sharon Harris
 7/5 Yeni Bernal
 7/6 Sandee Ahrens
 7/9 Jean Grossman
 7/10 Paula Lucking
 7/10 Suzette Ross
 7/11 Lisa Fisher
 7/15 Esther Cetina
 7/21 Jane Steimle
 7/25 Sue Fluri
 7/28 Jeanne Fenton
 7/28 Grace Weaver

AUGUST Birthdays 🎂

8/2 Angela Sawyer
 8/5 Barbara Kelley
 8/6 Deborah Goodchild
 8/8 Susan Bruns
 8/8 Barbro Jung
 8/9 Pam Miller
 8/17 Diana Godish
 8/24 Jean Elzinga
 8/25 Glenda Leith
 8/26 Susan Lushin
 8/26 Margaret Williams
 8/27 Amy Pellenz
 8/27 Lori Miller
 8/29 Pam Meyers

KANC BOARD 2024-2025

President~ Patricia Niewoonder
Co Vice Presidents~ Kathy Roberts, Patty Litwiller
Secretary~ Gayle Leavitt
Treasurer~ Donna Ring
Luncheons~ Nancy Schwander Irene Smith
Programs~ Kathy Eklov and Marcia Hokin
Reservations~ Angela Sawyer
Membership~ Pat Rose
Newsletter/Communication~ Nancy Greer
Publicity~ Paula Lucking
Hospitality~ Judi Blanchard
Special Interest~ Lori Miller

Did you know:

Did you know you can:

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and KANC webpage kazonewcomers.com

Our email address for inquiries is kanc.kalamazoo@gmail.com.

Invite your friends to join KANC. We always welcome new members.

Welcome to our Newest Members:

Anna Barlows and Peggy Angelici

We are so happy you joined our social group!

Just a few of the many highlights from our past year:

- ~ We successfully held 10 luncheons with great speakers educating us at all!
- ~ We held our first Fall Mix and Mingle for our newest members to get involved!
- ~ The Vintage Potluck Happy Hour was a huge hit and we hope we can repeat it next year.
- ~ Our first cookie exchange had over 28 women bake their old time family favorite and gather to swap cookies and socialize for the evening! What a delight!
- ~ KANC launched four new Special Interest Groups- Coping, Volunteering Adventures, Arts/ Entertainment and more, Evening Book Club
- ~ 19 new members joined KANC since October 2024 (Directory published)

Consumer File Box Lois Loeffler 269~372~0038

The Consumer File Box contains notes on services determined by recommendations received from KANC members. The name of the business and/or person who provides that service follow. The phone number and/or email address is included as is a website and/or physical address if they are known. The name of the KANC member who provided the recommendation and the date it was received is also on the card as are any comments provided by the recommending member. Calling a service from a trusted KANC member is often helpful.

KANC CONSUMER FILE BOX CATEGORIES

as of June 2024

Air duct cleaning
Animal removal service
Appliance repair
Arborist
Auto care
Bathtub re-glazing
Cardiologist
Carpet SEE ALSO Tile
Carpet/upholstery cleaning
Chair seat repair (cane, rush, splint)
Chimney work SEE ALSO Roofer
Computer repair
Cosmetics
Countertops
Dentist/dental surgery
Design Details—do not use
Dog boarding & grooming
Drycleaner
Electrician
Financial adviser
Flooring SEE Carpet & Tile
Furnace/Air conditioning
Furniture re-finishing
Garage doors/Openers/Repair
Gutters SEE Window washing
Handyman
Hauling
Infinity Home Improvement—do not use
House washing
Jeweler
Lamp repair/New lamps
Landscaping
Lawn care (some do leaf/garden clean-up)
Lawn sprinkler systems

Lawyer
Medical equipment - Lending Hands - Free
Movers
Nail salon services
Painters/Wallpaper hangers
Piano service/Tuning
Plumbing
Pressure washing SEE House washing
Realtor
Remodeling
Roofer/chimney work
Sewer & septic tank
Sewing SEE ALSO Tailoring/alterations
Sitter house/pet
Snow removal
Tailoring/alterations
Tax preparation
Tile SEE ALSO Carpet
Travel agency
Tree service
Upholsterer
Wallpapering SEE ALSO Painters
Window treatments
Window washing SEE ALSO House washing
Wood flooring
Woodworking
Yard work

Contact Lois Loeffler via email or landline phone to request recommendations or to suggest an addition, including the name of the business/service person, phone number and website, if available. Please include your personal comments.

loisloeffler@gmail.com
372-0038 (landline)

July 2024

KANC Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Evening Book Nook Parkview Hills Library 5:30 p.m. Euchre Huntington Run 1-3 p.m.	Happy Hour Fletcher's Pub Q Ave 4:00 p.m.			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Afternoon Bridge Linda Kubinski 12:30 p.m.	Hiking/Biking Lakeshore Trail Holland 10:00 a.m.		No board meeting		Friends, Food and Fun Fletchers Pub Q Ave 5:30 pm.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Book Nook Parkview Hills Dining room 10:00 a.m. Diner's Club The Hub 5:00 p.m.	Euchre Huntington Run Clubhouse 1-3 p.m		NO LUNCHEON		Breakfast Club Bob Evans 9:30 a.m.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Afternoon Bridge Nancy Jones 12:30 p.m.		Garden Group and Beyond Lavender Farms Caledonia Car pool Target West Main 9:30 a.m.			
28	29	30	31			

August 2024

KANC Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 Evening Book Nook Parkview Hills 5:30 p.m.	6 Euchre Huntington Run Clubhouse 1-3 p.m.	7 Happy Hour Fletcher's Pub Q Ave 4:00 p.m.	8 Board Meeting 9:30 a.m. Huntington Run Clubhouse	9	10 Friends, Food and Fun Jac's 9th Street 5:30 p.m.
11	12 Afternoon Bridge Susan Lushin 12:30	13 Hiking/Biking Kal Haven Trail Trailhead -Bloomingdale 10:00 a.m.	14 Diner's Club Dog and the Bank Plainwell 4:00 p.m.	15 NO LUNCHEON	16 Sit and Stitch Four Roses Plainwell 11:30 a.m.	17
18	19 Book Nook Parkview Hills Clubhouse 10:00 a.m.	20 Euchre Huntington Run Clubhouse 1-3 p.m.	21	22	23	24
25	26 Afternoon Bridge Micki Verne 12:30 pm.	27	28	29	30	31