

FORD'S COLONY

# Newcomers News

March/April 2018

Dear Fellow Newcomers,

You are in for a treat with this issue of the newsletter! Whether you came to the January and February *Nights Out* or not, you are sure to enjoy the wonderful program reviews presented here by our talented editor, Renate Mas. Highlights of the two programs—with links to many local destinations and bird-watching websites—can be found throughout this newsletter. Be sure to check it out.

And, if you have not joined us at the Swim & Tennis Club lately, be sure to mark your calendar for our March *Night Out* on Friday, March 16, 6:45 PM. Newcomers' very own Eleanor Tomczyk will present *One Thing Binds Us; One Thing Tears Us Apart*. Ms. Tomczyk is a memoirist and humorist blogger whose three books feature the musings of an engagingly funny ex-Evangelical conservative Christian African-American baby boomer. You will be captivated by her stories and her wit, and delighted to meet yet another wonderful Ford's Colony neighbor.

Many of us in Newcomers are fond of saying "Many hands make light work." This truism is a reality for all volunteer organizations and, in Ford's Colony, we see it in action every day. So, would you consider lending your hand to keep Newcomers active and vibrant? Volunteering to be on the Newcomers Board is a great way to meet people in our community and contribute to the success of one of the largest clubs in Ford's Colony.

Most of us in Newcomers have met our wonderful new friends through our Wine & Dine, BYOB, Mix & Mingle, lunch groups and book clubs. We know for certain that our social networks would have been much poorer without Newcomers...so please, consider lending a hand. John Butterworth, chair of our Nominating Committee, will be happy to talk to you about the many available positions. Talk to him at our March *Night Out*, or email him at [new.friends@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:new.friends@FordsColonyNewcomers.com). And we *promise*: It really *is* fun and it really *is not* a lot of work. The fun outweighs the work by a large margin!

Please take the time now to look through this issue of the newsletter. You will be charmed!

Before we sign off, we want to thank the hosts of our January and February Mix & Mingles for their gracious hospitality: Linda and Bill Colin; Jill and Gary Sitzer; Ruth and Bill Keeble; Rosemary and Steve Jasper; and Donna Hronec and Scott Blandford. If you would like to sign up for the Mix & Mingle on March 11 or April 8, email [Mix&Mingle@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:Mix&Mingle@FordsColonyNewcomers.com).

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Terry Cavanaugh and JoAnn Gora

Co-Presidents

[President@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:President@FordsColonyNewcomers.com)



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# Upcoming Newcomers *Night Out*

When: The 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month, 6:45 PM  
Where: The Swim & Tennis Club

## 2018 Scheduled Feature Presentations

**Friday, March 16:** “One Thing Binds Us; One Thing Tears Us Apart.” Fellow Newcomer Eleanor Tomczyk, a memoirist and humorist blogger, will share an entertaining and thoughtful presentation that will be part lecture/part performance art. At age 60, she set out to establish a new career in retirement as a storyteller, using her life as fodder. She has published three books: *Monsters' Throwdown* (2013), *Fleeing Oz* (2015), and *The Fetus Chronicles: Podcasts from My Miseducated Self* (2017).

**Friday, April 20:** “A new way to look at Colonial Williamsburg’s historic area” — We’ve all seen the results of the wonderful preservation work done on the buildings in Colonial Williamsburg, especially the Charlton Coffee House, but have you ever thought about just what goes into preserving and restoring these buildings? A look behind the scenes of these restorations is fascinating: The architectural work in discovering how the buildings were constructed, the archeological investigation into what is original and what is more recent, the search for materials and the special techniques required to faithfully restore the buildings. All of these secrets and more will be revealed and discussed by our speaker, Matthew Webster, who is the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Director, Grainger Department of Architectural Preservation.

**Friday, May 18:** All the way from Colonial Williamsburg, Newcomers is delighted to bring you an “Evening with George Mason.” Come and hear the story of this nation builder and then meet the man behind the character.

*After each meeting, Newcomers can get to know each other at Murdoch's, which features casual American Bistro cuisine in a comfortable atmosphere. It is located on the lower level of the Ford's Colony Country Club.*

# Your 2017-18 Board



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Ginger Kroncke  
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*Newcomers News* is published  
five times a year!

Contact us at

[Newsletter@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:Newsletter@FordsColonyNewcomers.com)

# January *Night Out* Highlights

Thinking outside of the box, or more accurately outside of “The Triangle,” was the theme of the first Newcomers *Night Out* program of the year on January 19, 2018, aptly titled *Beyond the Historic Triangle*.

The two program speakers of the evening were **Andrea Moran**, Newport News Tourism Specialist, and **Ryan Downey**, Hampton Roads Media Director, who gave Newcomers an overview of all of the exciting attractions awaiting exploration in these neighboring areas.

The first stop on the journey:



## Newport News ▼

Located about 15 minutes from Williamsburg, Newport News covers an area that is about 70 square miles in size and has a population of about 180,000.



English colonists began settling in what is now Newport News as early as 1622, according to the Newport News 2018 Visitor Guide.

The area played a vital role in both the Civil War and World War I, and this year will commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Historic Hilton Village and Fort Eustis.

Ella Fitzgerald, an American jazz singer often referred to as the Queen of Jazz and who would have turned 100 last year; and singer, performer and entertainer Pearl Bailey, who penned six books and would have celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this coming March, were both native to Newport News.

Among the attractions are:

- ✚ **Endview Plantation**, which was completed in 1769, served as a Confederate hospital. It had been home to Dr. Humphrey Harwood Curtis and his wife in the years preceding, during and after the Civil War. The house was also occupied by troops during the Peninsula Campaign.
- ✚ **Lee Hall Mansion**, which was built in 1859 for prominent agriculturist Richard Lee and his family. The home was used as a military headquarters during the Civil War.
- ✚ **James A. Fields House**, which in 1908 became the first Newport News hospital for African-Americans. The home once belonged to James A. Fields, an African-American teacher, lawyer and member of the Virginia House of Delegates, who lived from 1844-1903.

- ✦ **The Newsome House Museum & Cultural Center** is the restored 1899 residence of J. Thomas Newsome, an attorney, journalist and civic leader who prospered as part of the post-Civil War South’s new urban African-American middle class.
- ✦ **The Virginia War Museum**, which houses artifacts, weapons, vehicles, uniforms and posters that trace the development of the U.S. military from 1775 to the present.
- ✦ **The U.S. Army Transportation Museum** tells the story of the Army’s Transportation Corps—from horse-drawn wagons to all-terrain, armored vehicles.
- ✦ **The Virginia Living Museum** connects visitors with animals that are native to Virginia—from river otters to alligators, red wolves and more—in their natural habitats. It features a permanent trail with non-moving dinosaurs and areas for children to dig, as well as an aquarium replica of the James River as it spills into the Chesapeake Bay. Upcoming exhibits include the Art and Science of Arachnids (running through April 10) and Dino on the loose (on March 24 and April 14).
- ✦ In the arts, there is the **Peninsula Fine Arts Center** and the **Ferguson Center**, along with small community theaters such as that at **Historic Hilton Village**. Additionally, the **Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center** will celebrate Pearl Bailey’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in its third annual Hidden Gems Series on March 16. For more information about the latter, visit the center’s website at [www.downinggross.org](http://www.downinggross.org).
- ✦ Newport News also hosts free outdoor concerts at Port Warwick and City Center, in addition to selling discount tickets for Williamsburg’s Busch Gardens.
- ✦ The area also hosts Toast The Coast, with a “4 Taps, 4 Cities” promotion. Visitors accumulate four stamps from breweries, wineries and distilleries participating in the Beer, Wine & Shine Trail—some of which are in Williamsburg, Newport News, Hampton and Smithfield—and bring the stamps to the Newport News Visitor Center to claim a prize.
- ✦ For outdoor enthusiasts, Newport News has 30 parks and several beaches, as well as 34 sculptures (with one more coming).



## Hampton ▼

Hampton, founded in 1610, is one of the country's most excavated cities and represents a city of firsts: The first English Christmas was in Hampton, the first continuous English-speaking settlement was established in the city, and it was the first site in America to offer free public education.

NASA's space program was founded in Hampton. In fact, all of the original Mercury 7 astronauts were trained in the city, and all of them lived in either Hampton or Newport News except for one: John Krepp.

Among the city's attractions are:

- ✚ **Fort Monroe** became former President Barack Obama's first designation as a national monument on November 1, 2011. English explorer Captain John Smith came ashore near the site of the fort in 1607, and two years later—after settling in Jamestown—he returned to Hampton to build Fort Algernourne (now Fort Monroe). Work on the fort began in 1819 and took 15 years to complete. It is the largest stone fort ever built in the United States. In addition to being a Union-held fort in the middle of the South during the Civil War, it was the site where the Emancipation Proclamation became an idea. In 1861 three Virginia slaves escaped from Norfolk and rowed a small boat across the harbor to Hampton, seeking asylum at Fort Monroe. By the end of the war, more than 10,000 former slaves were living in large tents outside of what became known as “Freedom's Fortress.” Thousands of these former slaves were paid and became part of the Union force that helped with the war effort and forced President Abraham Lincoln to sign the Emancipation Proclamation sooner than he might have wanted. An interesting note: All homes at Fort Monroe are for rent, of which about 99% are at capacity.
- ✚ **The Casemate Museum**, located on the 565-acre peninsula known as Old Point Comfort at Fort Monroe, chronicles the history of the site from pre-colonial times to present. It houses the cell where Confederate President Jefferson Davis was imprisoned after the Civil War. Admission to the fort and museum are free and self-guided.
- ✚ **Fort Wool**, a companion to Fort Monroe, is not accessible by car. It is featured during the Miss Hampton II Harbor Cruises, a three-hour cruise that runs from mid-April through October 31. Private boats can also dock at the fort from May through September.



Photo: Frank Ruth



Photo: Virginia Air & Space Center

✚ **The Virginia Air & Space Center**, which opened in 2003, is the official visitor center for the NASA Langley Research Center. It is the only space center in the world to have a collection of all four U.S. space capsules, including the Apollo 12 Command Module.

✚ **The Hampton History Museum** chronicles four centuries of history. Through June 1, an exhibit titled “When the Computer Wore a Skirt: NASA's Human Computers” will showcase the group of five women that came to Langley in 1935 to form a computer pool to process all the data coming in from wind tunnel and flight tests.

- ✦ **The Hampton University Museum**, founded in 1868, is the oldest African-American museum in the United States and one of the oldest museums in the state of Virginia.
- ✦ **Bluebird Gap Farm**, a 60-acre site that is home to domesticated and wild animals familiar to traditional Virginia farms, is designed to resemble a working farm. It is the largest urban farm in the country.
- ✦ **The Hampton Carousel**, which was built in 1920, is one of only 70 antique wooden carousels to exist in the country; its horses are worth about \$250,000.
- ✦ Hampton is also home to a number of craft breweries and many fine restaurants.
- ✦ Hampton's 400-year legacy as the city "First from the Sea, First to the Stars" is captured in a combination ticket that is good for one-time admission to the Virginia Air & Space Center, Riverside Digital 3D IMAX Theater, Miss Hampton II Harbor Cruise, the Hampton History Museum and the Hampton Carousel. Adults tickets are \$39 and tickets for ages 4-11 are \$25. Sea to Stars tickets are sold at the Hampton Visitor Center.
- ✦ Free attractions include the Casemate Museum, Hampton University Museum, the Charles H. Taylor Art Center and such Hampton parks as Sandy Bottom and Bluebird Gap Farm.



Photo: Hampton Carousel

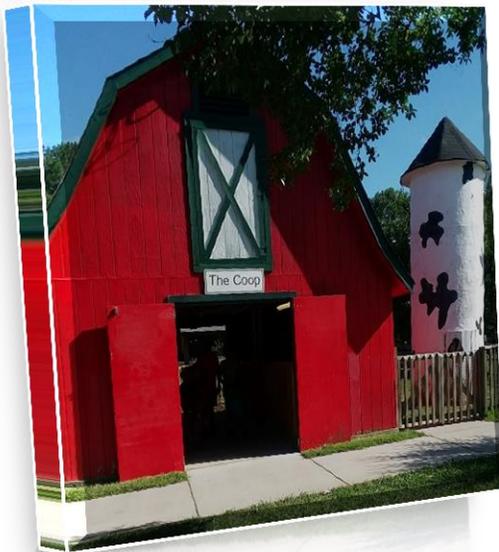


Photo: Bluebird Gap Farms

Photo: Miss Hampton II Harbor Cruises



Visit historic Civil War island of Fort Wool

# Making a Difference ...

The importance of volunteering and giving back to the community can't be overlooked. The two cameo presenters at the meeting touched on volunteer opportunities available to residents, both within and outside of Ford's Colony.

## Dean Risseuw, chair of the Williamsburg Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) Chapter

The Williamsburg SCORE Chapter, part of a national organization that has 300 chapters nationwide, is dedicated to providing free small business advice and mentoring services. With more than 20 mentors, it has been providing counseling services since October 1985. Mentors are both active and retired business men and women who help counsel those looking to start and run a small business. The group holds seminars at the Williamsburg Regional Libraries, including on how to start a non-profit, and can help teach the mechanics of how to start and market a business.



SCORE is seeking volunteers to serve as mentors. Volunteers are asked to give 20 hours of their time per month, and the chapter will work with volunteers for six months before interacting with people looking to open a business. The group especially calls for more women mentors who can take a lesson plan and teach. The Williamsburg SCORE Chapter is located in the Greater Williamsburg Chamber & Tourism Alliance Building at 421 North Boundary Street. More information can be found on the chapter's website at [williamsburg.score.org](http://williamsburg.score.org).



## John Butterworth, Newcomers Nominating Committee Chair

In a call for volunteers for the upcoming 2018-19 Newcomers Board, John gave an inspiring speech on why he volunteered to become chair of the Nominating Committee.

While John claims he's never been comfortable with meeting new people, you'd never know that his family (pre-Ford's Colony) saw him as likely to be a hermit.

Originally from Australia, John recounted the terrifying experience of leaving family and friends behind on the other side of the world (and 500 miles in his wife's case), and encouraged Newcomers not to repeat his mistake by waiting to get involved. After six months in Ford's Colony, he realized that the mini-groups and clubs he found in Newcomers are the vehicles to replace the work and school environments where he used to meet people. Now, "after 18 months, I have met a lot of good friends, through the mini-clubs ... and Pickleball!"

*"If you haven't already done so, don't be like I was in the first six months—take advantage of the mini-clubs, join some of them. Get out there and meet the people, and eventually you will find the people who will be really good friends." —John Butterworth*

One great way to do that is to volunteer with Newcomers and help welcome others into the community.

If you would like more information on volunteering for the Newcomers Board, you can speak to John Butterworth or another member of the Newcomers Nominating Committee at the next Newcomers *Night Out*. Or contact the committee via email at [new.friends@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:new.friends@FordsColonyNewcomers.com).

An overview of the board job descriptions can be found on pages 15-16.

# January Door Prizes

# Congratulations!

Raffle prizes for the January Newcomers *Night Out* included VIP passes to both **Newport News** and **Hampton Roads**, as well as meals at the **Center Street Grill** in New Town and **Murdoch's** in Ford's Colony.

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## *Our Winners:*

### **Newport News VIP Passport**

- ✚ **Margaret McElrath** won a VIP pass that admits two people to multiple city attractions for a one-year period. Among the attractions are: Endview Plantation, The Mariners' Museum, the Peninsula Fine Arts Center, the Virginia Living Museum, Lee Hall Mansion, Newport News Park, the Peninsula Petting Zoo and the Virginia War Museum.

### **Hampton Roads Star Ambassador/VIP Pass**

- ✚ **Steven Pyrek** won the Star Ambassador/VIP pass, which provides access for two people to the Hampton History Museum, the Virginia Air & Space Center & Riverside IMAX, the Hampton Carousel, Miss Hampton II Harbor Cruises, Patriot Tours/Fort Monroe, the American Theatre, Sandy Bottom Nature Park, Langley Speedway and Hampton Watersports.

For additional information on Newport News and Hampton attractions, visit the Newport News Visitor Center at 13560 Jefferson Avenue (at the entrance to Newport News Park—from I64, take exit 250B) or go to their website at [www.newport-news.org](http://www.newport-news.org); and the Hampton Visitor Center at 120 Old Hampton Lane or [www.visithampton.com](http://www.visithampton.com).

### **The Center Street Grill**

- ✚ **Pat Volkert** won a \$25 gift certificate to the Center Street Grill located in New Town, a restaurant that offers traditional tastes fused with new world flavor. Visit their website at [www.centerstreetgrill.com](http://www.centerstreetgrill.com).

### **Murdoch's**

- ✚ **Jackie Spiegel** won dinner for two at Murdoch's, located on the lower level of the Ford's Colony Country Club. More information is available on the Ford's Colony Country Club website at: [www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/Ford-s-Colony-Country-Club/Dining/](http://www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/Ford-s-Colony-Country-Club/Dining/).

# February *Night Out* Highlights

The Newcomers *Night Out* meeting on February 16, 2018, was for the birds ... the birds of Ford's Colony that is! Program speaker **Amanda Werrell**, a graduate student in the conservation biology program at the College of William & Mary, gave an entertaining and extremely informative talk on the many species of birds (nearly 130 of them) that have been identified in Ford's Colony—from the Carolina Wren and the Tufted Titmouse to the Northern Cardinal and Bluebird.

Amanda, a conservation biologist who has done research with the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, emphasized the importance of the public's involvement in science research, particularly in work involving birds. These citizen science projects, such as Habitat Network/Project Yardmap and Project NestWatch, provide invaluable crowd-sourced data in a volume that would not be attainable without public involvement.

Habitat Network/Project Yardmap, a partnership between the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the Nature Conservancy, is designed to let you make landscape maps of your yard and other green spaces like parks and nature reserves. The project examines how to transform urban areas into functional habitats to better support a diversity of wildlife while also increasing the quality of life for people and communities. It utilizes tools that give contributors the opportunity to form online learning communities and allows people to share their maps and practices broadly within the network. More information can be found on the project's website at [content.yardmap.org](http://content.yardmap.org).



Photo: Frank Ruth

Project NestWatch is a nationwide nest monitoring program to track breeding birds in America. The program, also run through the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, aims to track trends in the reproductive biology of birds, including when nesting occurs, the number of eggs laid, how many eggs hatch and the number of hatchlings that survive. The intent is to use the data to study the current condition of breeding bird populations and how they may be changing over time as a result of climate change, habitat degradation and loss, expansion of urban areas and the introduction of non-native plants and animals. Anyone seeking to participate can obtain nest-monitoring certification via an online quiz on the project's website at [nestwatch.org](http://nestwatch.org).

Additionally, you can visit the National Audubon Society's website and use your five-digit zip code to search the group's native plants database to find out which plants are best for the birds in this area. For more information, visit their website at [www.audubon.org/native-plants](http://www.audubon.org/native-plants). The website includes detailed information about bird species.

So what are some of the common birds in Ford's Colony and the greater Williamsburg area?



## **The Carolina Wren**

These birds, which are all over Williamsburg, are common in open woods and backyards in the Southeast where they busily explore brushpiles and low tangles. Unlike most other birds, they do not have the typical open-hole nest, and instead build closed-dome nests. These birds are very loud.

## **The Tufted Titmouse and The Carolina Chickadee**

The Tufted Titmouse's habitat tends to be in woodlands, shaded trees and groves. It is related to the Carolina Chickadee, a very bold and aggressive bird species that apparently doesn't realize how small it is. With a fiery spirit, this bird likes to use a lot of moss in its nest and prefers smaller nest boxes on the edge of woods.



## The Northern Cardinal



The Northern Cardinal, the state bird of Virginia along with several other states, is abundant in the Southeast but has been extending its range northward, according to the National Audubon Society. This bird “sounds like a laser gun or weird police siren,” according to Amanda. The male cardinal has a bright red body, while the female is a dull brown or tan color. They like to nest low in shrubs.

## Bluebirds

These birds tend to be heard only in the early morning chorus. They are the most common nest box user and love cherry trees. They have very tidy nests and usually have three to four eggs in a clutch, raising two to three clutches in a breeding season. Bluebirds are more of an open field species.

### Some other interesting facts:

- ✚ Birds sing both as a territory defense, to let other birds know they have claimed the area, and to attract mates.
- ✚ While the nesting season varies by species and temperature, it generally lasts from mid-March to July.
- ✚ The American Robin’s latin name is *Turdus Migratorius*, or the “migrating turd”—a name that Amanda (from first-hand experience) has found to be well-earned. These birds also tend to suffer from a lot of diseases.
- ✚ Mockingbirds are one species that will mimic the sounds around them, and will also dive bomb those who get too close to their nest. All three Mockingbird species can be seen in this area.
- ✚ In Australia, all birds evolved from the same species and tend to be very social, cooperating with each other due to the abundance of predators looking to eat them. You’ll often find unrelated species helping to raise the young of other species, according to Amanda.
- ✚ Birds have a fourth cone in their eye that allows them to see colors better; some can even see in the infrared range.
- ✚ The Great Horned Owl, which you’ll also find in Ford’s Colony, has legs the same size as the Bald Eagle.
- ✚ The population of domestic cats has influenced bird population. Feral cats have killed over 3 billion birds annually.
- ✚ Red Wing Blackbirds love to hang out together and form huge flocks. They can decimate local resources by eating all the bugs and seeds in an area.
- ✚ The Song Sparrow, which some say is the softest bird in the United States, is very aggressive. Like the Northern Cardinal, it likes to nest low in shrubs. Its song starts with three notes in the beginning, followed by what Amanda described as an engine turning over.
- ✚ Windmills pose a hazard to migrating birds, and current research under way is exploring putting a sonic lighthouse on windmill structures to help birds avoid collisions.



Photo (all birds): National Audubon Society



Photos: Frank Ruth

Also on hand during social time was **Sharon Ploucher**, who provided additional information on the Williamsburg Bird Club ([williamsburgbirdclub.org/](http://williamsburgbirdclub.org/)) and the Virginia Master Naturalist Program (<http://www.historicrivers.org/>).

# Cameos ...

## Gary Sitzer, volunteer tax preparer for the AARP Foundation

The AARP Foundation provides free person-to-person tax preparation for individuals, primarily aged over 50. Expenses are paid by the Internal Revenue Service, augmented by Foundation funds. The program helps seniors as well as low and moderate income taxpayers of all ages.

Tax preparation services are provided at both Williamsburg Regional Libraries, on Scotland Street and on Croaker Road, with both walk-ins and reservations accepted.



For those seeking tax preparation services, here's what you should bring:

- Picture ID (such as a valid driver's license or other government issued ID) for you and your spouse
- Social security cards for all persons on the tax return
- Tax documentation (W-2s, 1099s, 1098s) for you and your dependents
- Health insurance documentation (Form 1095-A)
- A copy of last year's tax return
- Bank account numbers for direct deposit on a printed check or bank card

Please note that on very busy days, the sign-in sheet may be closed early when returns for additional clients cannot be completed by library closing time.

Counselors are volunteers who are certified annually after passing a comprehensive IRS test.

If you'd like to help out those in need, the group is looking for volunteers. Training begins in December.

For more information, visit the library's website at [www.wrl.org/find-it-online/williamsburg-aarp-tax-aide](http://www.wrl.org/find-it-online/williamsburg-aarp-tax-aide).

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## Ginger Kroncke, Hospitality Committee

The Newcomers Hospitality Committee is organizing the June 14 Summer Luau Party, but needs your help gathering the materials. The items in black are now in hand, thanks to you. **The items in red are still needed:**

- One to two surfboards
- **Boogie boards** (have one; **need three more**)
- Four small metal tables
- Two lit palm trees, about 5 feet tall
- **Fish nets** (have 2, **need 2 more**)
- Small wading pool
- **Hula hoops** (have six, **need eight more**)
- **Artificial or real hibiscus bush**, about 4-5 feet tall (have two, **need two more**)
- Palm tree fronds, three to five per tree (have eight trees)
- Talented woodworker to make tree stands—2' x 4' in an X with a pole to place carpet roll over (need eight for the eight palm trees)
- A road sign with pole painted road markers in bright colors (5-6 feet tall)
- **Silk or real flowers, e.g. ferns or pothos**
- **Horse shoe game** (need two sets)
- **Flood lights** (need four sets to create a sunset)

If you can help out, please contact Ginger Kroncke at 757-585-2356 or [billginger71@gmail.com](mailto:billginger71@gmail.com).



# February Door Prizes

Wild Birds Unlimited, Murdoch's and Francesco's Ristorante Italiano provided the prizes for the raffle winners at the February Newcomers *Night Out*.

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## Wild Birds Unlimited

- ✚ **Ken Mas** won a nest box and pole mount from Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop on Casey Blvd in New Town, which sells products that are designed to help you turn your yard into a birdfeeding habitat that brings song, color and life to your home and benefits the wild birds and the environment in your area. For more information about Wild Birds Unlimited, visit their website at [williamsburg.wbu.com/](http://williamsburg.wbu.com/).

## Murdoch's

- ✚ **Mary Ann Klingel** won dinner for two at Murdoch's, located on the lower level of the Ford's Colony Country Club. More information is available on the Ford's Colony Country Club website at: [www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/Ford-s-Colony-Country-Club/Dining/](http://www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/Ford-s-Colony-Country-Club/Dining/).

## Francesco's Ristorante Italiano

- ✚ **Gary and Carol Mankin** won a \$25 gift certificate from Francesco's Ristorante Italiano, whose chef brings the taste of Sicily to Williamsburg. The restaurant is located on Richmond Road. More information is available on Francesco's website at: [www.francescosristoranteitaliano.com/](http://www.francescosristoranteitaliano.com/).



## Our Newest Members:

**Dot and Scott Barat**  
**Charles Beckman & Carroll Constance**  
**William & Cynthia Cockerham**  
**David & Karen Duros**  
**Pat & Bob Elsey**  
**Karen Arledge & Paul Mortensen**  
**Thomas & Eleanor Hylinski**  
**Michael & Nancy Moll**  
**Jim & Kathleen Mullins**  
**Gary & Maureen Sadler**  
**Sheida & Tom White**  
**Karen Zaenker**



Photo: The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

# Raise Your Hand!

The word "Yes!" is written in a large, bold, green 3D font with a slight shadow, giving it a vibrant and enthusiastic appearance.

Newcomers is all about finding people you really enjoy spending time with, and the best way to take an active part in making that possible is to volunteer.

Join the Newcomers Board, which organizes all of the many activities available to members, and helps Newcomers find new friends as we settle into our new homes and integrate into the community.

So get involved! For more information about serving on the Newcomers Board, see one of our nominating committee members at the next Newcomers *Night Out*:

- John Butterworth (committee chair)
- Mary Alice Joss
- Ginger Kroncke
- Candace Madden
- Clara Pierson

Or drop them a note at [new.friends@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:new.friends@FordsColonyNewcomers.com).

*An overview of the Newcomers Board job descriptions appears on the next two pages.*



# Overview of Newcomers Board Positions

## Officers

### **President**

- Oversee Newcomers Club as a whole and delegate club duties as appropriate.
- Represent Newcomers Club to the Ford's Colony Activities Committee.
- Plan, organize, and carry out responsibilities associated with leadership role.

### **Vice President**

- Provide support to the president and board and represent the president when called upon.
- Facilitate the new member introduction and welcome function.

### **Treasurer**

- Trustee of all Newcomers Club funds.
- Create and oversee Spending Plan (budget) to ensure club funds are received and disbursed according to plan and adjusted according to income and expenses.

### **Recording Secretary**

- Maintain records and club history for Newcomers.
- Manage ad-hoc volunteer process.

## Board Members

### **Membership Correspondent**

- Welcome new residents with designated materials and make them aware of what Newcomers Club offers.
- Coordinate aspects of membership acquisition and renewal. (Finances are handled by Membership Technical and Treasurer.)
- Responsibility will have one Chair, one Assistant, and two Committee members.
- The Chair will ensure the activities of the Chair, Assistant, and Committee members are coordinated.

### **Membership Technical**

- Manage the Newcomers member database and FordsColonyNewcomers.com domain and emails.
- Publish *Newcomers Newsletter* and email blasts as appropriate.

## **Membership Newsletter**

- Manage the production of the bi-monthly *Newcomers Newsletter* using proficient writing, computer and project management skills.

## **Membership Name Tags and Greeter**

- Serve as the first point of contact to greet and welcome all members at Newcomers meetings.
- Maintain members' name tags.
- Committee generally a two-person (or two couple) team but may be more, if desired.

## **Hospitality Committee**

- Provide a welcoming environment for club meetings and events. Plan and execute décor and refreshments at monthly meetings; décor, food and entertainment at social parties or special events.
- Committee should consist of three members who will solicit short-term volunteers to assist on as needed basis.

## **Programs Committee**

- Plan the program portion of monthly club meetings and coordinate speakers as needed.
- Committee generally has a minimum of three members but may have more, if desired.

## **Book Clubs**

- Oversee formation of Book Club groups.
- Provide tools and support for individual Book Club groups.

## **Bring your Own Beverage (BYOB)**

- Oversee formation of BYOB groups.
- Provide tools and support for individual BYOB groups.

## **Lunch Groups**

- Oversee formation of Lunch Groups.
- Provide tools and support for individual Lunch Groups.

## **Mix & Mingle**

- Coordinate and schedule monthly Mix & Mingle events
- Provide tools and support for hosts of events.

## **Wine & Dine**

- Oversee formation of Wine & Dine groups.
- Provide tools and support for individual Wine & Dine groups.

# Did You Know?

There are so many events occurring in our wonderful city, ranging from arts and entertainment, history, educational and family fun. Here are a few places to help get you started exploring:

- ④ As a resident of James City County, you can enjoy the Revolutionary City, art museums, exhibition sites, and special offers and discounts through the **Colonial Williamsburg's Good Neighbor program**. The pass (available for just \$10 for adults; Children under 12 get one free) gives you unlimited admission to the Revolutionary City for one year from the date of purchase, complimentary shuttle service, access to two world-class art museums, and much more. For more information about purchasing a Good Neighbor pass, visit [www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/tickets/good-neighbor-pass](http://www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/tickets/good-neighbor-pass).



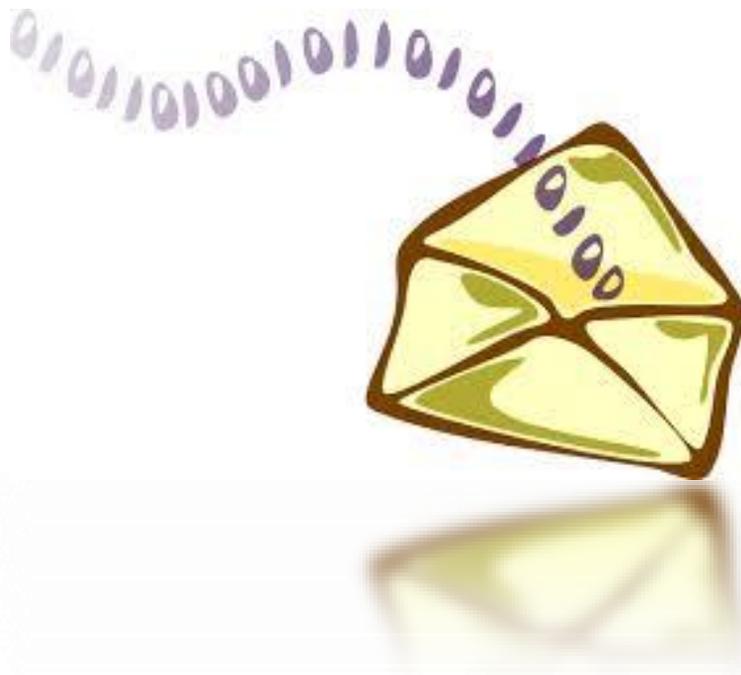
- ④ The **Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation** offers free admission to residents of James City County. Just bring proof of residency to the visitor services desks at the museums. More information is available at: [www.historyisfun.org/donate/local-residents/](http://www.historyisfun.org/donate/local-residents/)
- ④ The **Williamsburg Regional Library** is a great place to learn about your new home, offering various lectures and workshops, youth reading programs, live theater, films, concerts and even classes and computer training. For a full calendar of events, visit the library's website at: [www.wrl.org/events](http://www.wrl.org/events). Area residents have access to two convenient library locations: the Williamsburg Library at 515 Scotland St. and the James City County Library at 7770 Croaker Rd.
- ④ **2nd Sundays Art & Music Festivals** is one of many events hosted by the nonprofit organization CultureFix. The art and street festival runs on the second Sunday of every month from March to December, 11 AM to 5 PM. For more information about this event and others hosted by CultureFix, visit: [www.culture-fix.org/events](http://www.culture-fix.org/events).
- ④ The **Kimball Theatre**, located in Merchant's Square in downtown Colonial Williamsburg, has a full calendar of events and concerts throughout the year. For a list of upcoming shows at the theater, which is run by the College of William & Mary, visit: [kimball.wm.edu/](http://kimball.wm.edu/).
- ④ You can get alerts about emergencies and weather events from the **James City County Emergency Alert System**: The system enables the county to provide you with critical information quickly in a variety of situations, such as severe weather, water outages, evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods. You choose how you will receive time-sensitive messages via your home, mobile or business phones, email address, text messages and more. Sign up for JCC Alert at <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736727501#/login>.
- ④ The **Christopher Wren Association** at the College of William & Mary is dedicated to persons who seek opportunities for learning and enrichment of their lives in a collegial environment of sharing and fellowship. It offers opportunities to explore an array of topics in varied areas through lectures, courses, field trips, tours, special events, and activities. There are two types of membership: 1) Regular Membership, which costs \$135 per person and includes up to eight course units spread over a 12 or 15-

week semester, Town & Gown Noon Lecture Series, other scheduled activities, and eligibility to participate in all other functions sponsored by the association. 2) Associate Membership for a semester is \$50 per person. This fee entitles one to enroll in the Town & Gown Noon Lecture Series and participate in Special Events. Associate members may not participate in Activities or Courses. For more information, visit the association's website at [www.wm.edu/sites/cwa](http://www.wm.edu/sites/cwa).

- Ⓜ Additional information about different activities, events and museums in Williamsburg can be found at: [www.visitwilliamsburg.com/events/](http://www.visitwilliamsburg.com/events/), [www.history.org/](http://www.history.org/) and [www.williamsburgfamilies.com/](http://www.williamsburgfamilies.com/).
- Ⓜ Looking for information about the community in which you live? Visit the **Ford's Colony Homeowners Association** website at [www.fchoa.org](http://www.fchoa.org) for information on everything from the latest issue of *Talk of the Colony*, clubs and activities, and even a tutorial on dwellingLIVE, our new visitor management system.
- Ⓜ Need to register to vote? Visit James City County's voter registration website at [www.jamescitycountyva.gov/1044/Voter-Registration-Elections](http://www.jamescitycountyva.gov/1044/Voter-Registration-Elections) for more information.

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**If you have found other helpful resources that you'd like to share with your fellow Newcomers, feel free to drop us a line.**



**Email our Newsletter Editor at [Newsletter@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:Newsletter@FordsColonyNewcomers.com).**

# Hospitality Corner



## Refreshments and Parties ... ways for you to get involved, have fun and make new friends!

After a hugely successful Winter Wonderland holiday party, the Hospitality Committee is once again hard at work planning the next big event: an *Aloha Hawaiian Luau* in June to welcome summer in style. There will be great food, tropical decorations, island music, interactive games and dancing for your enjoyment. Save the date: June 14, 2018.

**REFRESHMENTS NEEDED:** At our January and February *Night Out* meetings we had bountiful refreshments at our tables. The food contributed by the volunteers was enticing and delicious! We all thank you so much.

Each month we need volunteers to bring the refreshments for our members to enjoy. Just look for the sign-up sheets being passed around at each meeting with the alphabet designation at the top. If your name begins with those letters, we would ask that you contribute a small refreshment. We all appreciate it!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** We also need help to set up and clean up at the meetings. There is a spot on the Refreshment sign-up sheet for you to volunteer. Please take a minute to sign up!

The January and February volunteers helped us set up the beverages and refreshments before the meeting and then put away the supplies and cleaned up afterward. Thank you to Betsy and Jack Barrar, Leah Howard, Rose Hunter, Peg Nalezny, Nick Ryder, Karol Sibley, and Linda and Jim Swearingen, who were our valuable assistants during the two *Night Out* events. Many hands make light work.

It's a wonderful feeling to jump in and give a little time for the benefit of all. And you'll make some new friends as well!

See you at the next meeting!

### Hospitality Committee

Lynda Barone \* Ginger Kroncke \* Jill Sitzer

Questions? Contact us at [Hospitality@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:Hospitality@FordsColonyNewcomers.com)

# Mini-Clubs Highlights



It's not too late to sign up  
for a Lunch Group!

Lunch groups are a great way to meet new friends and enjoy the fabulous dining options in the greater Williamsburg area. The groups meet monthly at a time convenient for everyone. There are groups for men, women and couples, so there is definitely a group for you. New groups will be forming and adding new members throughout the fall and spring.

For more information or to join a group, please contact:

Marla Boren at [LunchGroups@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:LunchGroups@FordsColonyNewcomers.com)

Or sign up at the Lunch Groups table at the next Newcomers *Night Out*.

Don't miss out on the fun. Your new friends can't wait to meet you!

## Sunday Fun

### Newcomers *Mix & Mingle* Night



Second Sunday of the Month

5:30 – 7:30 PM

- March 11
- April 8
- May 6 (week changed due to Mother's Day)



Wouldn't you like to host a *Mix & Mingle* Night?

Pick a month—any month ... It's a new mix each time.

Sign up at Newcomers *Night Out* or call:

Jackie Speigel (703) 655-2934 or Beth Whitson (757) 707-6660

Or email at [Mix&Mingle@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:Mix&Mingle@FordsColonyNewcomers.com) for more information.

Would you like to host a *Mix & Mingle* Night? Give us a call for details!



## Join a BYOB group!

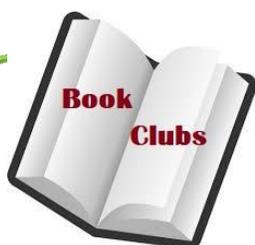
**Bring Your Own Beverage & Appetizer** groups are a wonderful way to meet and make lasting friends and to have fun at casual gatherings. Six to eight couples (singles welcome too!) sign up to join a weekend (Saturday or Sunday) or a weekday group. Groups meet once a month at a member's home for about two hours starting at 5:30 or 6 PM. Host role rotates monthly.

Come sign up at our next Newcomers *Night Out*, or contact:  
Linda Benner and Colleen Woodard at [BYOB@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:BYOB@FordsColonyNewcomers.com)



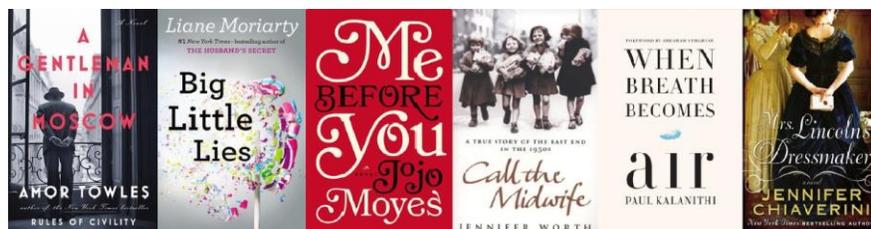
## Eat, Drink and Be Merry!

Welcome to 2018. A time to meet new friends and visit local restaurants. In a Wine and Dine group of five to six couples, you meet once a month. You begin the evening at the home of another member of Newcomers for wine and appetizers followed by dinner at a Williamsburg-area restaurant. The group alternates among members' houses for pre-dinner wine and snacks. It's a wonderful opportunity to "wine and dine" with a small group of new friends. Groups are forming now for weekday or weekend evenings. See Karol Sibley and Nancy Powell at the Wine & Dine table at our monthly *Night Out* events or email them at [Wine&Dine@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:Wine&Dine@FordsColonyNewcomers.com)



## Want to read a good book?

It is the perfect time to join a book club for this coming year. Why not join and be part of one? Here's what some of the book clubs have been reading:



So, if you love to read, have stimulating discussions or have a book to recommend, see Patricia Jeanmaire or Peg Nalezny at our monthly Newcomers *Night Out*, or contact us at [BookClubs@FordsColonyNewcomers.com](mailto:BookClubs@FordsColonyNewcomers.com).



## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Our generous sponsors have donated gift certificates, discount coupons, and raffle prizes. Please visit them and thank them for supporting our Newcomers Club.

Berret's Seafood Restaurant  
 Bonefish Grill  
 Capriccio Ristorante  
 Carrabba's Italian Restaurant  
 Cochon on Second  
 College of William & Mary  
 Corner Café  
 Duck Donuts  
 Food for Thought  
 Ford's Colony Country Club  
 Francesco's Ristorante Italiano  
 Hampton Roads Vineyard & Winery  
 Jamestown Yorktown Foundation  
 La Terraza Mexican Grill  
 MAD about Chocolate  
 Miyaki Sushi & Grill  
 Morrison's Flowers and Gifts

Murdoch's  
 New York Deli and Pizza Restaurant  
 Oceans & Ale  
 Parlett's Paper Expressions  
 Plaza Azteca  
 Red Lobster  
 Revolution Golf & Grille  
 Sal's by Victor  
 Sal's Ristorante Italiano  
 Saudé Creek Vineyards  
 Tuscany Ristorante Italiano  
 Whitley's Peanuts  
 Wild Birds Unlimited  
 Williamsburg Area Restaurant Association  
 Williamsburg Choral Guild  
 Williamsburg Indoor Sports Complex  
 Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra

A special thanks to the donors of raffle prizes for our January and February *Night Out* events:

- **Newport News Visitor Center** ([www.newport-news.org](http://www.newport-news.org)).
- **Hampton Visitor Center** ([www.visithampton.com](http://www.visithampton.com)).
- **The Center Street Grill** ([www.centerstreetgrill.com](http://www.centerstreetgrill.com)).
- **Murdoch's** ([www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/Ford-s-Colony-Country-Club/Dining/](http://www.clubcorp.com/Clubs/Ford-s-Colony-Country-Club/Dining/)).
- **Wild Birds Unlimited** ([williamsburg.wbu.com/](http://williamsburg.wbu.com/)).
- **Francesco's Ristorante Italiano** ([www.francescosristoranteitaliano.com/](http://www.francescosristoranteitaliano.com/)).