

Bloomington Newcomers & Neighbors News

bloomingtonnnc.com



March-April 2026



**SAVE THE DATE: Spring Fling at Oliver Winery
on Tuesday, May 12, 2026. More information later.**

BLOOMINGTON



NEWCOMERS & NEIGHBORS CLUB

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crfan59@yahoo.com

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Vacant

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jantgreenwood@gmail.com

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Linda Burton
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brtnlin@yahoo.com

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BNNC Membership year is June 1 - May 31

Bloomingtonnc.com

- Announcements and RSVP forms
- Current newsletter
- Photos
- Membership Application



WANTED: Photos of your group activities. Send to any of the following:

Debbie Zerr for Facebook: dlzerr321@sbcglobal.net

John DePaemelaere for website and end of year slide show:
john.depaemelaere@outlook.com

Publication Deadlines

Send to the newsletter editor any general announcements no later than the 15th of the months of February, April, June, August, October and December.

Please send requests for special occasion cards (e.g. Sympathy, Get Well, Wedding) to Jan Greenwood. (No birthdays, please.)

The Newcomers & Neighbors News is published for members of the BNNC. Annual membership is \$20. First time members: discounted rate of \$10.

How About a Fun Day Trip?

**Interested in a day trip to West Baden Springs
and the French Lick Casino and Hotel?**



Here's the itinerary:

Leave at 10 a.m. and return by 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9th.

Group lunch at Ballard's In The Atrium at West Baden Springs Hotel 11:30 – 1 p.m.

French Lick casino and hotel 1:15 – 3:45 p.m.

Leave French Lick at 4 p.m.

The Cost:

\$35.

This trip is being co-sponsored by Meadowood Retirement Community. We will be traveling on their bus. We have a limited number of seats, so hurry to reserve a spot!

If you are interested contact: Ramona Pound at jnrpound@hotmail.com or 813-517-7505.

Reservations must be made and paid by March 30th.

BNNC meetings have returned to the American Legion!

1800 W 3rd Street. Ample parking at the door.

Mark your calendars in March and April for the FIRST TUESDAY at lunch time for exciting events! Please do not arrive before 11:15 AM; program starts at 12:30. Get your lunch order in as soon as possible. This will allow lunch to be served without interrupting the presentation.

You are welcome to attend without eating; please come and join your friends.



On Tuesday, March 3rd, Jason Blakeman will be our featured speaker. He will talk about railroad safety. He has 22 years of Rail Industry Experience at (BNSF Railway, Norfolk Southern Corporation and The Indiana Rail Road Company). Jason started as a conductor and Locomotive Engineer and then promoted to various management positions of increasing responsibility over the years.



On Tuesday, April 7th, learn more about Bloomington's Healing Hands Outreach Center. Heidi Brown is in her second year as Director. She will discuss Healing Hands' mission to meet the needs of our community and will answer questions that you may have about the Center.

Please be sure to take photos of your group events! Forward those photos to john.depaemelaere@outlook.com for inclusion in the newsletter.

Future TGIF Events

We need volunteers to host future TGIF events on the 2nd Friday of each month.

We still need hosts for July, October, November and December in 2026.

Contact Hollie Lutz if you would like to host TGIF.

hlutz4@gmail.com (812) 320-8386

TGIF is a pitch-in. Bring an item to share and BYOB.

Carolyn Anderson

March 13, 2026

6-8 PM

3927 S BAYTREE LN, BLOOMINGTON, 47401-9754

RSVP

(812) 340-1433

caanders@iu.edu

Joan Lawrence

April 10, 2026

6-8 PM

Limit of 20 People

9411 S HARBOUR POINTE DR BLOOMINGTON, IN 47401-8400

RSVP

(217) 820-5009

indycondo19@gmail.com



RESOURCES FOR EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

WEBSITES FOR EVENT INFORMATION

visitbloomington.com/events – a comprehensive listing of local events

Check out the City of Bloomington website for City events and local governmental information:

<https://bloomington.in.gov/about>

Don't forget to check out events throughout the state:

visitindiana.com/events

Bridge Information

To all bridge players, all our present groups are full, but we always need subs. If you are interested in being on the women's sub list, please email or text Linda Burton, brtnlin@yahoo.com, 219-793-5498. If you are interested in being on the couple's list, please email or text Jane McHenry, JMcHenry1955@gmail, 317-385-2859. If you would like to start a new bridge group, we will be happy to help you. Just let us know.

Welcome To Our New Members!

Judy Cooperman 419-351-6157 jcooperman@bex.net
 Ron Cooperman 419-351-9927 rcoop22@gmail.com
 3715 W DENISE DR BLOOMINGTON IN 47404-8412



Couples Bridge Jane McHenry jmchenry1955@gmail.com (317) 385-2859 *Players Welcome!*
 Looking for a fun, social way to spend an afternoon or evening together? The Couples Bridge Club is restarting and welcoming new members of all experience levels. Whether you're: Brand new to bridge; A little rusty; Or have played before and want to get back into it. This group is meant to be relaxed, friendly, and social. The focus is on enjoying the game, meeting new people, and having fun - not competition or pressure. No partner? No problem — couples are encouraged, but flexibility is built in as we grow the group. Come give it a try — we'd love to see you at the table!

Hiking Group

December 5, 2025



First Friday Canasta

January 2, 2026



Luncheon Meeting

January 6, 2026





Holiday Party

January 10, 2026







Holiday Party breakdown

Our Holiday Party was a success even though we had to change the date. Fifty-three members attended. The total cost for the party which includes food, linens, table decor, 8% sales tax and gratuity for staff was \$1,981.63. The cost per person was \$35.39. Each attendee paid \$28.00 therefore the club subsidized the party for \$7.39 per person. We try to keep the cost of our social events as reasonable as possible. If anyone is interested in helping with this committee, please let Linda Burton know.

Supper Club

January 14, 2026



Bunco Group

January 15, 2026





3rd Friday Bridge Group

January 16, 2026



Wine Club

January 18, 2026



Hiking Group

January 23, 2026
At Freezefest



1st Friday Canasta

February 6, 2026



Crafting Group

February 9, 2026



3rd Monday Canasta

February 16, 2026



Bunco Group

February 19, 2026



International Issues

February 26, 2026



Fun Lunch Bunch

February 26, 2026



Hiking Group

February 27, 2026

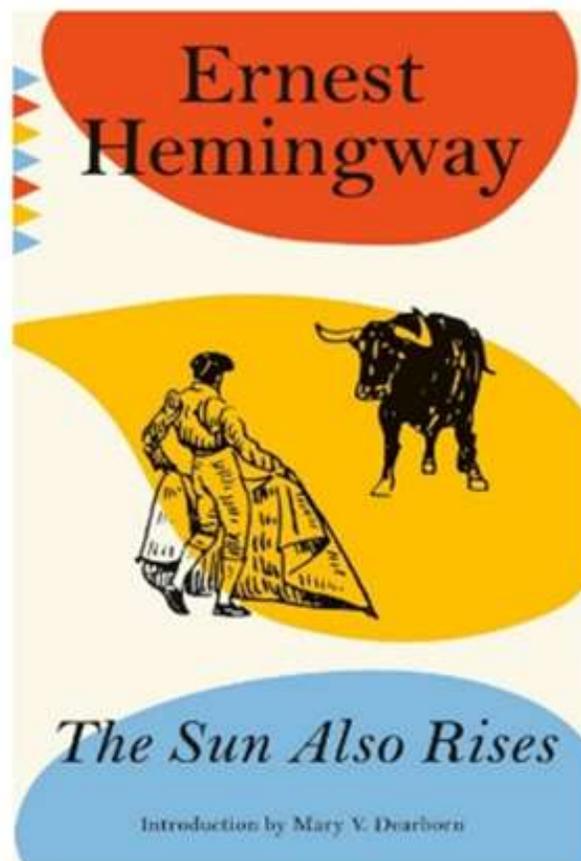


Book Club 1

Book Club 1 meets every month on the last Wednesday of the month, 12:30, at Bell Trace, in the 3rd floor lounge. New members are Welcome !

Our book club met Wednesday, 4 Feb, (meeting date moved), to discuss *The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway. It was a lively discussion of Hemingway's writing style, his life in Paris in the 1920's and his passion ("Aficio") for the running of the bulls and bull fighting at the Pamplona 7-day festival that never sleeps. Hemingway's best work.

The novel tracks the "Lost Generation" from WWI of the 1920s from the nightclubs of Paris to the bullfighting arenas of Spain focusing on themes of love, loss and the search for meaning. Hemingway's famous quote: "Bullfighting is the only art in which the artist is in danger of (violent) death and in which the degree of brilliance in the performance is left to the fighter's honor."



The Club met again on 25 Feb to discuss "The Rent Collector" by Cameron Wright, who tells the poignant story of Sang Ly, a young mother living in the Stung Meanchey dump in Cambodia, who discovers hope and redemption through the power of literature. Discussion was led by Mary Anheuser.

On 25 March we will meet at 12:30 at Bell Trace to discuss "Code Name Verity" by Elizabeth Wein. The novel is a critically acclaimed young adult historical fiction on friendship, courage, and espionage during World War II. Discussion will be led by Karen Wyle.

Interest Groups

Do you have an interest in a topic that you would like to share? Why not consider being a leader of an interest group? You can meet as often as you like, or when an opportunity comes up!



Crafting Group- Robyn Axelrod robyn@axelrod.us (812) 778-0880
If you love crafting come join us on the second Monday of each month at 11 AM at College Mall on the upper level of the Food Court, by Ulta and Azzip. Bring any type of creative hobby or craft you enjoy ie., knitting, crocheting, diamond painting, needle-point, embroidery, journaling. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.



Book Club #1—Ken Crawford kcrawford69@gmail.com 661-247-7600
Meets at Bell Trace 3rd floor lounge at 12:30. See page 13.
Always welcoming new members.



Book Club #2—Book Club 2 meets on the 4th Friday of each month at Noon, with occasional date changes around the holidays. If interested, contact Izzy Beck greavesbeck@gmail.com or (949) 439-8560. Participants bring a bag lunch and wine is served.



Railroad Group—Paul Lutz crfan59@yahoo.com (812) 322-4669
John DePaemelaere john.depaemelaere@outlook.com (812) 322-2630
All things railroad, model trains, historic videos, field trips and more.



International Issues—Andy Bratton a7bratton@aol.com (732) 236-8543
Meets 4th Thursday 4:30 PM at Red Lobster. Andy will email the topic a few days before.



Local Plays Group



Hiking Group--Charlotte Reitz charlotte.reitz@gmail.com (812) 457-2285
Meets monthly.



Meditation Group



Good Eating and Beverage Groups



Fun Lunch Bunch Meets the 4th Thursday of each month. Call Joan for reservations.
Joan Lawrence indycondo19@gmail.com (217) 820-5009



Ladies Night Out

LEADER NEEDED



Men's Breakfast Every Thursday 8:00-9:30 AM
John DePaemelaere (812) 322-2630.
This group meets at Lincoln Square, 2160 N Walnut Street.
Free parking. We hope to see the regulars and new faces.



Wine Tasting Linda Burton brtnlin@yahoo.com (812) 369-4611
This group is currently full.



Wine Tasting Ruth Simon prsimon@gmail.com (812) 339-8291
This group is currently full.



Supper Club John DePaemelaere john.depaemelaere@outlook.com
Contact John DePaemelaere for the next meeting date and location (812) 322-2630.
RSVP to John.



Lunch and a Movie DeeDee Bratton dianebratt@aol.com or (732) 2236-8543
We meet the fourth Tuesday of the month for lunch then your choice of a movie.
DeeDee will email a list of movies and the name of the restaurant the week before.
Call her for lunch reservations.

Cards & Games

Mah-Jong—Ruth Simon prsimon@gmail.com (812) 340-4223
'We play the hybrid military way.' *Please come, observe and play with us. We would be glad to have you.*

Cribbage Group—Susan Hiller (773) 678-4280 greenviewsusan@gmail.com
Offering instruction and welcoming new members.

Ladies Bunco-Debbie Zerr dlzerr321@sbcglobal.net
(574) 220-2561 Meets the 3rd Thursday.

First Friday Canasta meets the first Friday of every month at Meadowood HP Lounge from 1 - 4:30 p.m. 2455 Tamarack Trail, 47408. No RSVP is required, but if you would like a reminder, please be sure that you are on our email list. Contact Ramona Pound, 813-517-7505 or jnrpound@hotmail.com Beginners are welcome.
New Canasta Players always welcome.

Third Monday Canasta Group meets at 1 PM at Bloomington Library-Southwest 890 W Gordon Pike. Coordinated by Susan Montgomery montgomery_4884@msn.com (812) 325-4611
New Canasta Players always welcome. You can play on Monday or Friday! *We'll teach you to play!*

Domino Group - Janet Justus jjustus24@gmail.com
(321) 276-6080

Will be held on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the College Mall upper deck of the Food Court. We will meet at 12:00 PM for those who want to have lunch together at Azzip. At 1:00 PM the Games begin. The 13 games usually take 2 to 2 1/2 hours.

Poker Group



1st Tuesday Men's Bridge Rich Weyand
weyand@rcn.com *New members welcome!*

3rd Thursday Men's Bridge Rich Weyand
weyand@rcn.com *New members welcome!*

Cards & Games

4th Monday Bridge Linda Burton
brtnlin@yahoo.com (219)-793-5498
Need more players!

3rd Friday Ladies Bridge Linda Burton
brtnlin@yahoo.com (219)-793-5498

Couples Bridge Jane McHenry
jmchenry1955@gmail.com (317) 385-2859
 Players Welcome!

Looking for a fun, social way to spend an afternoon or evening together? The Couples Bridge Club is restarting and welcoming new members of all experience levels.

Whether you're:

- Brand new to bridge
- A little rusty
- Or have played before and want to get back into it

This group is meant to be relaxed, friendly, and social. The focus is on enjoying the game, meeting new people, and having fun - not competition or pressure.

No partner? No problem — couples are encouraged, but flexibility is built in as we grow the group.

If you're interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Jane McHenry 317-385-2859.

jmchenry1955@gmail.com

Come give it a try — we'd love to see you at the table!

3rd Wednesday Bridge--Connie Clark (479) 365-9270
conclrk@gmail.com

1st Wednesday Bridge--Mary Rucker
 We meet at 12:30. Please call Mary 812-219-1636 if you have gotten a sub. You may also call the hostess with that information.

March 4 Janice Hunt 812-824-4049
 4306 Falcon Drive

April 1 Connie Clark 479-365-9270
 3609 E 3rd Street

May 6 Wendy Teller 630-240-2323
 6601 E Kerr Creek Road

June 3 Jane McHenry 317-385-2859
 2238 E Cape Cod Drive

July 1 Mary Rucker 812-219-1636
 735 E Olde Mill Circle

August 5 Mary Rucker 812-219-1636
 735 E Olde Mill Circle

Sept 2. Wendy Teller 630-240-2323
 6601 E Kerr Creek Road

Oct 4. Carol Anthony 812-320-9832
 2480 W Amherst Road

Nov 4 Janice Hunt 812-824-4049
 3936 E Fenbrook Lane

Dec 2 Sheila Nickle 812-528-2940
 3823 Brownridge

Substitutes:

Clara Henderson 812-824-3161

Judy Goen 812-824-2059 or 812-360-3747 (cell)

Becky Bushong 317-514-5585

Melinda Fish 812-272-3276