

NEW CLEVELANDERS NEWSLETTER –DECEMBER 2020

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear New Clevelanders,

As we leave 2020 behind us, let us hope for a brighter year in 2021. I am feeling positive that we will see some important progress toward controlling and annihilating the virus. Keep those hopes up and maybe, just maybe, we can resume some kind of normalcy in the spring.

In the meantime, we have to do the best job we can of staying safe and keeping up our spirits. We have had lots of practice by now on how to stay occupied within our homes. So at least our learning curve is not so steep! My sewing machine is getting some attention again. Books are important to me. Netflix is a great diversion. Phone conversations seem to last longer. New recipes are being tried. My home is VERY organized.

Thanks to Kathy Schiciano for compiling a helpful go-to list of TV programs for us to consider. Her descriptions were amusing in and of themselves. Our New Clevelanders members are the best! Send your future recommendations to Susan Cheshire.

Check out Becky Griffith's column for some fun ideas to help get us out and about, while staying safe. Becky does such a great job pulling together information for us. Thank you so much Becky for your efforts and your attention to your column. We appreciate you!!

What are your plans for holiday decorations this year? I have not done anything yet, but I am looking forward to getting out all my things to put around the house. Finding the same cherished items each year is comforting. And then sometimes I come across something new that I purchased at the end of last season and forgot about... Surprise!

Last month we celebrated Judy Ernest. Yes, she did interview Mother Teresa one-on-one for one hour; and yes, she was the on-air expert on baby boomers for Good Morning America on ABC TV. Judy joined New Clevelanders in 1970, not 5 years ago!!!! She is one of our original members which makes her very special. Watch for this month's "headliner" Kathy Esterle.

Stay safe, happy, and hopeful! Happy Holidays to everyone.

Jan Kolb
President New Clevelanders

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NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

No new members this month.

NEW MEMBER COFFEE

December 3rd at 10:00AM

We are hosting a Zoom meeting for new, current, and prospective members. If you wish to attend, please RSVP to Debra Navratil and she will send you the Zoom link. If you are not familiar with Zoom and need help, please do not hesitate to email, or call her and she will walk you through it.

Debra Navratil 703-498-9207
rttdbr@aol.com

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/02	Amy Squyres
12/10	Teri Guerin
12/11	Katherine Curran
12/12	Peggy Baymiller
12/20	Teresa Haddock
12/25	Paula Dudley
12/26	Nancy Mudd
12/29	Kathy Kramer

Happy Birthday!!!

BOARD MEETING

Date: Monday, December 7th
Time: 10:00 AM
Place: Virtual meeting hosted by Jan Kolb.

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Throwback Photo: Happy Hour at Paladar Latin Kitchen - March 2015



Back Row: Karen Simpson, Debbie Garnaut, Meredith Cores, Kathy O'Donnell and
Creed Woodka

Front Row: Kathy Esterle, Gail White, Kaye Myhan, Jean Spangenberg, and Mikki
Pietrantozzi

Member Spotlight: Two Truths and a Lie

Can you guess which of these statements about Kathy Esterle are not true? The January newsletter will have the answer!

- 1) I attended a private 50th birthday bash at Fenway Park in Boston and had access to the entire stadium.
- 2) I have been in a submarine and on a helicopter on the same vacation.
- 3) I enjoyed the gorgeous beach in La Pelosa, Sardinia in Italy.



New Clevelander Photo Contest

It is time to update the photo on our New Clevelanders website. It should be something that reflects both our mission and the beautiful area we call home. Please submit your photo to Jan Kolb, jankolb@me.com, by December 15, 2020 **DEADLINE EXTENDED**. Winner will be announced in January and will receive a \$50 Gift Certificate to M Italian.

All photos must be original work, taken by the entrants. No third party may own or control any materials the photo contains, and the photo must not infringe upon the trademark, copyright, moral rights, intellectual rights, or rights of privacy of any entity or person.

Unusual December Holidays

December 1	Eat a Red Apple Day
December 5	Repeal Day - (Ending Prohibition)
December 6	Mitten Tree Day
December 7	Letter Writing Day
December 10	Human Rights Day
December 12	Poinsettia Day
December 15	National Lemon Cupcake Day
December 17	National Maple Syrup Day
December 21	Crossword Puzzle Day
December 24	National Egg Nog Day
December 28	Card Playing Day
December 30	Bacon Day
December 31	Make Up Your Mind Day

Source: www.holidayinsights.com

New Clevelander Cookbook Project

Since so many New Clevelander activities involve food, we thought it would be fun to publish a cookbook of dishes from New Clevelander gatherings over the years as well other tried and true recipes you would like to share with the group. After all food is one of the many things we do right! To get started, we are asking that you submit your recipe(s) to newclevelanderscookbook@gmail.com by January 15th. You can send multiple recipes if you like. Please email them as attached Word documents (versus embedding them in the email) and make sure the following information is included for each one:

- List of ingredients
- Step-by-step cooking instructions with any special tips (e.g., "cake may look underdone at first but will firm up as it sits"; "you don't have to thaw the peas first"; etc.)
- How many people the dish serves
- Roughly how long the dish takes to make: prep time and cook time

Also, please feel free to preface your recipe with a short story of its origin or when or how you served it. You can also include captions, such as "Gets rave reviews from everyone," or "Great for a ladies' luncheon."

We are hoping this is an activity we can all participate in either by submitting recipes or helping to assemble and publish the cookbook. We are putting together a group to work on this project, so if you would like to be part of that group, please let Debra Navratil know. So far, Meredith Cores and Kelley Niven have volunteered. More information will be forthcoming as the project gets underway.

Out and About by Becky Griffith

This month, I would like to share with you some of my favorite holiday destinations. These stores are ones that I make a special effort to visit every year, and they always help me get into the Christmas spirit. Because of COVID-19 precautions, it is more important than ever to plan carefully to make your outings safe and stress-free. I would recommend you visiting them as early in the Holiday season as possible to avoid the crowds that will be there in late December, and weekdays would certainly be an easier and more enjoyable time to spend the day shopping and enjoying a leisurely lunch. They involve a bit of driving from the Cleveland area, but both are certainly worth the extra effort.

The Pine Tree Barn in Wooster, Ohio will have their holiday decorations all up starting the weekend of Nov.7th and 8th. It is a wonderful place to shop, and I always spend hours browsing through their three floors of special holiday items, clothing, furniture, ornaments, foods, toys, and art. Their on-site restaurant, The Granary, is excellent and features many delicious items, including their famous Lemon Crumb Muffin. They take reservations during the week, but because their weekends are so busy, it is first come first serve on Saturdays and Sundays.

<https://www.pinetreebarn.com/>

The Root Candle Company Store in Medina, Ohio is another fun place to visit before the holidays. Besides their signature candles, you will find many other items to give as gifts to family, friends, or even yourself! I like to visit the town square in Medina and browse through the many cute shops. There are several restaurants right on the town green, as well as Miss Molly's Tea Room--a long-time local favorite place to go after a day of shopping.

<http://rootcandles.com/>

<http://www.missmollys.net/>

Again, it would be very wise to visit these stores early in the season when they are not quite as busy as they will be once the holidays are upon us. I am planning on visiting both places, so maybe I will see you there!

Becky Griffiths - beckygriffiths218@gmail.com - 440-804-4312

WHAT TO READ NEXT by Meredith Cores

Need some good books to curl up with now that winter is coming? How about a mystery? I am a fan of Agatha Christie classics like *And Then There Were None* and *Murder on the Orient Express* (much easier to understand if you have seen the movie!) Here are some other suggestions:

Chief Inspector Gamache series by Louise Penny. This was suggested to me by a number of New Clevelanders over the years. I am so glad I finally listened!! There are 16 books in the series. Start with the first one, *Still Life*, as there is such great character development over the course of the series and references to previous situations. So, make a cup of tea, grab a blanket, and get ready to meet the residents of Three Pines.

Duncan Kincaid/Gemma James series by Deborah Crombie. There are 18 books in this series. I accidentally read the most recent one first. Makes a lot more sense if you start at the beginning with *A Share in Death*. I stumbled across this series while I was waiting for a new Louise Penny book to be released and I am glad I did. The series takes place in London and surrounding areas, so it is like a travel getaway at the same time.

The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman. This is a bit like "Murder She Wrote" as a group of elderly residents at a high-end retirement home meet to solve cold cases. I would not be surprised to see a sequel next year.

One by One by Ruth Ware. A luxury resort. An avalanche. And multiple murders.

The Sundown Motel by Simone St. James. This was fun because in addition to mystery there is a little element of the supernatural. Not my usual genre.

WHAT TO WATCH NEXT by New Clevelanders Members

This pandemic has had us all ruminating on many of life's big questions. One of the most pressing: What should we watch on Netflix next?

Here are a few suggestions to add to your viewing list! Please be advised that this list is based on the member's opinion alone, not the whole New Clevelanders' Board!

Amazon Prime: For an extra charge, PBS documentaries are available. Recommended by Susan Cheshire.

Netflix: *The Queen's Gambit* is a fictional story that follows the life of an orphan chess prodigy, Beth Harmon (Anya Taylor-Joy), during her quest to become the world's greatest chess player while struggling with emotional issues and drug and alcohol dependency.

This show was recommended by both Janis Lyons and Nancy Lykins.

NBC: *Transplant:* When Dr. Bashir "Bash" Hamed, a charismatic Syrian doctor with battle-tested skills in emergency medicine, flees his war-torn homeland, he and his younger sister Amira become refugees struggling to forge a new life in Canada. But if Bash ever wants to be a doctor again, he must redo his medical training from the ground up and obtaining a coveted residency position is nearly impossible.

But when a horrific truck crash nearly kills a senior doctor right in front of him, Bash saves the doctor's life and earns a residency in the biggest Emergency Department of the best hospital in Toronto.

You can watch earlier episodes on Demand. Recommended by Susan Cheshire.

Please send your recommendations to Susan Cheshire at scheshire6113@earthlink.net

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~~ ACTIVITIES ~~

BENEFIT BEAT

Date: December 6th – 9th

Time: N/A

Place: 6710 Brandamore Ct. Solon, OH

Chairs: Debra Van Scoik 717-830-3180
dqvanscoik@gmail.com

Linda Kresnye 440-903-1007
lkresnye@sbcglobal.net

Details: Benefit Beat is collecting much needed food, paper, and laundry detergent donations for the Thea Bowman Center. The Center is a community anchor in the Mt. Pleasant area of Cleveland, which has an exceedingly high crime rate and average income of \$22,000. The Center focuses on food support, community education and youth programs. Please consider donating nonperishable food items (expired food is not accepted), paper goods and toiletries.

Items may be dropped off between December 6 and 9 at the home of Susan Cheshire, 6710 Brandamore Court, Solon (leave items on covered porch). Or call Susan at 203-526-7413 to arrange a pickup.

Although we are not currently volunteering as a group, the Cleveland Food Bank and the Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland need volunteers and/or donations. If you would like to volunteer individually, here are the links to their websites for online applications and more details: [at the Greater Cleveland Food Bank](#) and [Volunteer — Ronald McDonald House Cleveland](#).

Thanks! Debra and Linda

BOOK CLUB

Date: Wednesday, December 2nd

Time: 9:30 am **NOTE NEW TIME**

Place: Zoom Meeting

Chair: Susan Cheshire 203-526-7413
scheshire6113@earthlink.net

Details: December Book: *Necessary Lies* by Diane Chamberlain. This book is about a small southern town fifty years ago. This book will make you question right from wrong.

January 6th : *The Silent Patient* by Alex Michaelides. The instant #1 New York Times bestseller "An unforgettable—and Hollywood-bound—new thriller... A mix of Hitchcockian suspense, Agatha Christie plotting, and Greek tragedy." —Entertainment Weekly.

Please feel free to attend the Zoom meeting **even if you have not read the book.**

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BUNKO

Date: No November Activity

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chairs: Michelle Daunch 216-469-0613
mdaunch@yahoo.com

Monika Hellstern 203-217-1971
mkhellstern@yahoo.com

Details: Hello Ladies! This is for those of you that are real Bunko lovers!!! Even though we cannot meet in person to play Bunko right now there is a way to play bunko. Online of course!

Real. Actual. Bunko. It is a website called Yapping Moose. There are all sorts of online games there including Bunko. You can play against the computer or with multiple tables. Check it out and see if there is something that you might like to play. Hope this helps a little, until we meet again!

CANASTA

Date: On Hold

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chairs: Cherie Arnold 440-247-6104
cherie_arnold@yahoo.com

Details: The game of Canasta became the biggest fad since Mah-Jongg in the 1920s and crossword puzzles in the 1930s. In the early 1950s, Canasta surpassed even Contract Bridge in popularity, and it is still one of the most widely played card games in the country. Many variations of the game exist, and New Clevelanders have their very own variation. We play with 4 players in two partnerships with 5 decks of cards. If you would like a copy of the rules we use, please contact Cherie. In the meantime, stay safe and well.

CLUB GASTRONOMIQUE (Club G)

Each group's head chef will determine the date, time, and place of the meetings.

Chair: Kelley Niven 269-615-2288
dandkniven@sbcglobal.net

Details: Hello Yummy Friends! As we all prepare for our Pandemic Holidays, we may want a new recipe or two to throw in with our tried and true favorites. I tried these for the first-time last year. They are all easy and delicious, and I hope you enjoy them. I wish you peace and joy during this season.

Recipe: **Crispy Goat Cheese topped Arugula Salad with Pomegranate Vinaigrette**

Makes 8 servings

For the salad:

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- 1) 16 oz Goat Cheese log, cut into 24 slices
- 2) 1/2 Cup Flour
- 3) 1/2 t black pepper
- 4) 2 Egg Whites
- 5) 2 T Water
- 6) 1 Cup Panko Bread Crumbs
- 7) 4 T Olive Oil
- 8) Large Container Baby Arugula
- 9) 4 Navel Oranges, peeled and sectioned
- 10) Pomegranate Seeds

Combine flour and pepper in a shallow dish. Combine egg whites and water in a separate shallow dish. Place panko in a third shallow dish. Dredge goat cheese disks in the flour, then the egg mixture, then the panko. Chill 30 minutes to 4 hours. Brush an aluminum foil lined baking sheet with the olive oil. Arrange the goat cheese in a single layer. Bake 10 minutes at 350. Turn the goat cheese over and bake an additional 10 minutes.

Divide arugula, orange sections and pomegranate seeds onto 8 individual plates. Top each salad with 3 goat cheese rounds. Drizzle with vinaigrette.

Pomegranate Vinaigrette:

- 1) 1 1/2 Cup Pomegranate juice
- 2) 1/3 Cup Olive Oil
- 3) 5 t Honey
- 4) 1 T White Wine Vinegar
- 5) 1/4 t freshly ground black pepper.

Bring pom juice to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer until it is reduced to 1/4 cup - or about 15 minutes. Transfer to a salad dressing shaker and cool completely. Whisk in remaining ingredients.

Cranberry Pork Tenderloin

This recipe comes from my friend Heather. It is delicious & could not be easier!

Mix together:

- 1) 1 14 oz can Whole Berry Cranberry Sauce
- 2) 14 oz Orange Juice (use the can from the cranberries to measure)

In a crockpot add:

- 1) 1 whole Pork Tenderloin, seasoned with salt and pepper
- 2) Cranberry-Orange Juice mixture

Allow to cook on low for 5-6 hours. Slice and serve with the sauce from the pot.

White Chocolate Raspberry Charlotte Russe

- 1) 24 Ladyfingers, or gluten free Ladyfingers
- 2) 4 - 3.4oz Boxes White Chocolate Instant Pudding Mix (regular or fat free)
- 3) 3 1/2 Cups Whole Milk
- 4) 2 t Orange Zest
- 5) 1 T Triple Sec, or Orange Juice, plus additional to glaze Ladyfingers
- 6) 1 t vanilla
- 7) 1 Cup Whipping Cream
- 8) 1/4 Cup Sugar
- 9) Raspberries
- 10) Powdered Sugar
- 11) White Chocolate Curls

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Combine the Pudding Mix, Milk, Orange Zest, 1 T Triple Sec (or OJ) & vanilla.

Line sides and bottom of a 9" springform pan with Ladyfingers. Brush the insides with Triple sec or Orange Juice.

Fill cookie lined pan with the pudding mixture. Cover and place in the fridge until set.

Whip the whipping cream adding the sugar gradually until stiff peaks form. Put a thin layer of the whipping cream over the pudding. Put raspberries on top of the whipping cream. Dust with Powdered Sugar. Sprinkle with White Chocolate Curls. Serve with remaining Whipping Cream.

If you would like to be part of a New Clevelanders Recipe Exchange TEXT me (Kelley Niven) at 269-615-2288 and I will add you to the group. You will have to send one recipe to start and we will take it from there. Please do not sign up if you are not going to send your recipe. New Clevelanders members only please!

EXCURSIONS

Date: Thursday, December 10th

Time: 7 pm – 9 pm

Place: Bethlehem Hills Christmas Light Park, 9760 Mayfield Road, Chesterland, OH
Meet at 7PM at Arabica Coffee House, 12626 Chillicothe Road, Chesterland, OH

Chair: Jamie Wolf 847-602-7043
wolffamily5@hotmail.com

Details: Please join us on a "New Clevelanders Caravan" to a drive through Christmas light park, nestled in the beautiful grounds of Berkshire Hills Golf Course. This socially distanced event will surely put you and your family in the holiday spirit! We will start at Arabica Coffee House to pick up a warm drink and treat. From there we will head over to see a magical Christmas light displays, such as Candy Cane Village, Toyland, Nativity scene, and much more! It is a 1.5-mile drive through 240 acres of "rolling hills, woods, creeks and lakes is truly an enchanting winter wonderland". You must purchase tickets online before event. www.bethlehemhillslights.fun

RSVP: by December 5th to Jamie Wolf, 847-602-7043/ wolffamily5@hotmail.com

FOOD AND WINE SOCIETY

Date: On Hold

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chair: Susan Cheshire 203-526-7413
scheshire6113@earthlink.net

Details: Hello to the Food and Wine Society! Coming: Spring 2021.

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GOLF

Date: End of season – no scheduled dates Wednesday Mornings

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chair: Nancy Lykins 330-995-6045
nllykins@aol.com

Details: Golf is over for 2020. Thanks to all who participated! We will monitor conditions as we get to Spring 2021 as far as offering golf lessons at The Golf Dome in April.

KNITTING

Date: No December Dates

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chair: Veda Penick 216-470-5092
vedapenick@gmail.com

Details: Knitters can meet at the home of Veda Penick (just a few people at a time). If you are comfortable meeting, Veda can show you how to knit and/or go over pattern ideas. Contact Veda if you want to be on the mailing list. It is the holiday season, so let us think yarn!

LADIES MIXER

Date: On Hold

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chair: Laura Regelski 585-747-2160
lregelski@gmail.com

LUNCH BUNCH

Date: On Hold

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chair: Heather Rawlings 812-374-7654
heather.rawlings@comcast.net

Details: Due to COVID-19, Lunch Bunch outings are on hold. Hopefully, we will be able to get together soon but, in the meantime, here are a couple restaurant ideas to try on your own:

Glenwillow Grille
29765 Pettibone Rd Solon, OH

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Hofbräuhaus Cleveland
1550 Chester Ave Cleveland, OH

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season!

MAH JONGG

Date: 2nd and 4th Mondays, 1 pm, online

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chair: Jean Spangenberg 216-533-5940
Jqpspangenberg@gmail.com

Details: Good news! We started playing Mah Jongg online in groups of four while using Zoom to interact with each other. If you are interested in joining, please email Jean.

PICKLEBALL

Date: End of season, no further sessions until next summer.

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chair: Karen Lee 216-926-9637
kslee27@gmail.com

Details: Please contact Karen with any questions or to be added to the email list.

TRAVEL TALK

Date: On Hold

Time: N/A

Place: N/A

Chair: Kathy DeMerit 408-656-7163
kdemerit@yahoo.com

Details: We will not hold any Travel Talk meetings until it is safe to gather. I know many of you are taking road trips and that will be the theme of our next meeting ("Road Trips in 2020").

WALKING CLUB

Date: Various dates. See detail below.

Time: 3:00 PM

Place: TBD

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Chair: Kathy DeMerit 408-656-7163
kdemerit@yahoo.com

Details: We will walk every Tuesday in December at 3:00. Call me or email me for the location and directions. Walks will be easy to moderate and will last about an hour. Depending on responses we will go near or far. Since I am in Chagrin Falls, I will pick trails close to my home. If you live in another area, I can pick a spot closer to you.

I will also arrange walks on Thursday December 3 and 17 if there is interest. Or just call me if you need a walking partner - any day or time I am free.

We all need a change of scenery now and walking is great to refresh and renew your spirit.

Please e-mail kdemerit@yahoo.com if you want to be put on the list for notification of our walks.
IMPORTANT: Exact time, place and date will be e-mailed to you.