

Where Fun and Friendships Happen

MAY/JUNE
2026

EVERGREEN NEWCOMERS
AND NEIGHBORS

PO BOX 2197

EVERGREEN CO 80437

Kathrin Schroeter, Newsletter Editor

NEW!
Click on a title and it will take you there!

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Next Newsletter Deadline:
June 20th for Group Recaps and
July/August

REGISTER FOR OUR ENN SUMMER PICNIC!
Sunday, June 14, 2026, 2:00 - 5:00 PM
At Marshdale Park
(Details [HERE](#))

www.evergreennewcomers.com

www.facebook.com/groups/EvergreenNNC

Upcoming Happy Hours:

May 19: Evergreen Bread and Cocktail Lounge, 1260 Bergen Pkwy #220, Evergreen - (elevator available!)

June 14: No happy hour – come enjoy Summer Picnic instead!



President's Message

Hello Fellow Newcomers and Neighbors!

Once again, our Spring Food Drive was a huge success, significantly outperforming previous efforts. The food and cash gifts are important for the Evergreen Christian Organization Food Pantry to service the growing numbers of residents having trouble putting food on the table. The volume donated this year puts us on ECHO's map as one of the top food drives in this area. Thanks to Rebecca Balentine for her organization; thanks to all the volunteers who stood outside King Soopers and Safeway or transported food to the pantry; and especial thanks to all our generous members who make the Evergreen community the wonderful, welcoming place that it is.



Flag Day, June 14, is the day of our annual picnic. Over 100 loyal members turned out last year, and I expect no fewer this year. Because of the fire risk to our area this year, we are not able to grill, and so we decided to offer a variety of boxed lunches. ...of course, there will be ice cream :-)

The point of the picnic is to honor our devoted activity group leaders. We have 40 active groups now, and, thanks to Activity Chair Chris Schmenk, more are on the way. For many of us the activity groups are where we really connect with friends, and the group leaders make that happen by finding places to meet, discovering new diversions, and keeping the groups happy and on track. Please come and show your appreciation for all they do.

I couldn't help but notice that our events of late have coincided with holidays. We had a Happy Hour on Mardi Gras and another on St. Patrick's Day. The upcoming Evergreen Speaks! event is on Cinco de Mayo. And now our Picnic is on Flag Day. All of this is a coincidence, of course, but it made me think a bit about holidays. Often, holidays are a reason to celebrate, to connect with friends and family, to commemorate people and historical events that mean a lot to us today. So, with a little effort and a little help from ENN, perhaps any day can be a holiday!

Mike

ENN's mission is to provide opportunities for its members to meet others through social events and activity groups. The ENN membership list is only for the personal use of ENN members and may not be used for commercial or non-ENN purposes. All photos displayed in this newsletter were taken by its members and are displayed with their permission unless annotated with source.

Changes in Board of Directors

Effective April 3, 2026, the following members joined the Board of Directors:

Randi London moved to Evergreen in August 2025 with her husband Brandon Kornhaber from New Jersey. She is a former 20-year public relations veteran and has worked as a college communications professor for the past 12 years.

Randi is excited to join the ENN Board to lend her marketing and PR experience to the many wonderful ENN events. In her spare time, Randi hikes with her pups and travels to see her college aged kids and family.



Hi, I'm Carol Rapp, and here's a little peek into my journey. With my father being in the Air Force, I grew up bouncing between a few states—Nebraska and Ohio among them—before earning my Electrical Engineering degree from the University of Dayton. Not long after, Colorado called my name, and I headed west to join Martin Marietta (now Lockheed Martin), where I spent a rewarding career before retiring in 2019.

These days, I'm a licensed real estate agent, helping people "Rapp themselves into their dream home."

I met my husband, John, through mutual friends at work, and together we raised two wonderful kids, both of whom are married and have since gifted us several furry grand-pets. After many happy years in Littleton, we moved to Evergreen in 2020. We were drawn in by the quiet beauty, the wildlife, the sense of community, and—of course—the challenge of coaxing tomatoes to grow at 8,300 feet.

To meet new friends and dive into local life, we joined ENN and started exploring various activities. Evergreen has truly become home, and I love sharing that feeling with others. I now serve as your Membership Chair on the Board.

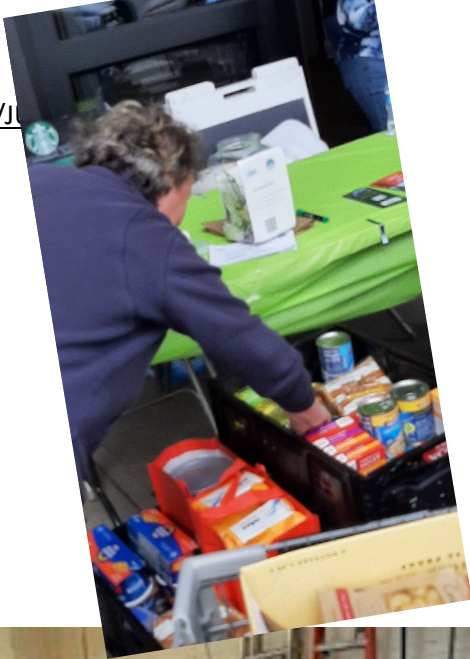
Wonderful news about our March 28, 2026, FOOD DRIVE!



ENN held its 4th annual food drive on March 28th to support the work of the ECHO Food Pantry. We had locations at both King Soopers and Safeway and were amazed by the **generosity of the Evergreen community**. **ENN collected over 2,500 pounds of much-needed grocery items as well as \$3,000 in cash, checks and gift cards!** None of this would have been possible without our ENN volunteer drivers transporting all the crates to the Food Pantry and our front-of-store volunteers nicely giving out grocery lists and encouraging folks to donate:



MAY/J



Transport Teams: Will Cassidy, Dawn Harper, Gail Kowalczyk, Joe Kowalczyk and Mindy Ratliff.

Store Teams: Lynne Eger, Tomas Eger, Mike Ferrari, Annie Ginsberg, Carol Goss, Janet Harting, Marilyn Innerfeld, Lori Main, Rita Lenn, and Randi London.

And thank you to all the ENN members who also so generously contributed to this year's drive. Well done everyone!

ARRIVAL AT ECHO FOOD PANTRY!



Evergreen Newcomers and Neighbors

Evergreen Speaks!

Sponsored by Evergreen Newcomers and Neighbors, Evergreen Speaks! Highlights Evergreen residents speaking on topics of interest to our community. Presentations follow the TEDx format with short presentations followed by time for questions and discussion. Free and open to the public.



Courtesy of Resilience1220

Lindsey Breslin

Executive Director, Resilience 1220

Tuesday, May 5th, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Evergreen Christian Church

27772 Iris Drive, Evergreen, CO

Please join us for our next speaker, **Lindsey Breslin**, an Evergreen Newcomers and Neighbors member and Executive Director of the Resilience1220. She will be speaking on “**Cultivating Resiliency**”.

Welcome New Members of ENN!

Jeri Benner
Mike Benner
Lisa Hoffman
George Kasynski



Summer Picnic and Group Leader Appreciation

Sunday, June 14, 2026, 2 to 5 pm

Venue:

- Marshdale Park, 6979 S Ocelot Trail, Evergreen, CO
- Behind Marshdale Elementary school, and has plenty of parking
- BYOC – Bring Your Own Chair, seating is limited

Come Join the Fun:

- Four Pickleball courts have been reserved for the ENN picnic
- Come and thank your hard-working Activity Leaders!

Menu:

- Gourmet Box Lunches with three options
- The Club will provide beverages and ice cream

Cost:

- Activity Group Leaders attend free of charge!
- \$25 per person for members and each of their guests
- Since we need to place food orders, EVERYONE needs to register in advance
- Contact us by [clicking here](#)
- All reservations must be made in Cheddar Up and the DEADLINE is Wednesday, June 10th

FAQs:

- The Box Lunches are being professionally prepared through Biscuits and Berries catering. Gluten free is available upon request by [clicking here](#)
- We have elected to provide a cold lunch due to the severe fire threat in our area and in accordance with the current EPRD and Jeffco regulations.
- We plan to hold the event rain or shine. In the event of inclement weather and you do not want to stay you are invited to pick up your Box Lunch anytime from 2:00-5:00 PM.
- Our theme is Flag Day in celebration of America's 250 Anniversary. Please feel free to wear red, white and blue.



[Click here to Register](#)



Free image from Pixaby





SAVE THE DATES: SEPTEMBER 19 AND 26

2026 ENN Firewood Drive for EChO

Each Fall ENN volunteers help stock the EChO firewood lot to help our neighbors keep warm in the winter months. Last year we were able to provide 18 cords of wood! We are looking for volunteers to help make this year's drive even more successful. Specifically, we need:

- **WOOD!** Any ENN members that are removing trees from their property and willing to donate it to EChO, please reach out to me as soon as possible.
- **VOLUNTEERS!** To move a lot of wood, we need a lot of volunteers on each day of the event. We will need pickup trucks, trailers, chain saws, and numerous people to help load the wood into and out of the trucks when delivered to EChO. Many hands make light(er) work!

Please reach out to Rebecca Balentine (rjbalentine@icloud.com) if you're interested in more information.



Happy Hour at the Hummingbird Club on St. Patrick's Day, March 17.



Happy Hour at Pho Evergreen on April 21



ACTIVITIES UPDATE

New Groups Starting!

RV Camping, French Conversation and Casual Cuisine Groups: These new groups just started! If you're interested in finding out more about them, please contact their leaders at:

- RV Camping: Lisa Cassidy at wljcass@gmail.com
- French Conversation: Mark Ellis at ellis.m.e@icloud.com
- Casual Cuisine: Dawn Harper at enncasualcuisine@gmail.com (see separate article herein)

Easy Walkers Co-Leader STILL Sought: Now that Spring is here, we're running out of time to re-start the Easy Walkers group, and we STILL need a co-leader! We have a great group of people who want to walk weekly, and we have one member willing to co-lead the group. However, we need another to get the group started. If you're willing, please email Chris Schmenk at the Activities address below.

Hiking Groups Gearing up for Season: Our Summer Hiking Group, Thursday evening Mellow Hikers and Saturday morning Mellow Hikers groups are starting another great season! The Summer Hiking Group's first outing is Thursday April 30. Let us know if you'd like to join these groups!

New Dog Walking Group: We're starting a Dog Walking Group that will meet every Wednesday at 9:30 am at the Evergreen Lakehouse. The first walk will be Wednesday May 6, and the leader is Mac Nickey. We're looking for a volunteer to back Mac up and co-lead the group. The group will walk around the lake or uptown. Dogs must be on a leash and have up-to-date vaccinations (proof may be required upon request). Dogs are not required, if members just want to participate! To join or to volunteer to co-lead the group, email Mac at wmacnickey@gmail.com. Weekly RSVPs will be required, and given the additional 4-legged attendees, the group reserves the right to limit the 2-legged attendees to the first 4 to 6 responders so control can be maintained.

Leaders Needed for New Paddleboard and Rummikub Groups:

We'd like to start an ENN Paddleboard group as well as a Rummikub Group. If you're willing to lead these groups, contact Chris Schmenk at the email below, and we'll get them started!

If you would participate in or lead any of these groups, please contact Chris Schmenk at Activities@evergreennewcomers.com or 937-303-2790. She'll get you connected!

From Dawn Harper, Leader of the Casual Cuisine Group:

Casual Cuisine= Come When You Can, No Strings Attached

Casual cuisine is all about getting together in different member's homes over good food and great conversation. While it's technically a group the spirit is very simple, there's nothing to join, nothing to commit to, and no pressure to attend regularly. If the date fits your schedule, come, if not, catch us the next time.

Many of us are already involved in other activities so this is designed to be flexible and easy. A chance to connect without adding one more thing to your calendar. Think of it as an open invitation to share a meal with friendly faces whenever it works for you.

So, what is Casual Cuisine?

When: Meets second Saturday of the month at 5:30 pm

Where: Meets in different member's homes every month

What: Call Dawn at 970-901-0895 to RSVP for the date that month, you decide a dish, homemade or store bought (app, entrée, salad, side dish, dessert) to bring to share with the group, there is no assigning of dishes (trust me it always works out 😊). Also bring whatever serving utensils your dish needs and BYOB or beverage of choice.

Host provides: Paper goods, Cups, Eating Utensils, A big smile. Host *will determine* the number that they can accommodate. (This is meant to be a fun mingling, not sitting event.)



**"It's an American cultural experience!"
(Quote Mathew)**



A day in the life of the POKER NIGHT Group



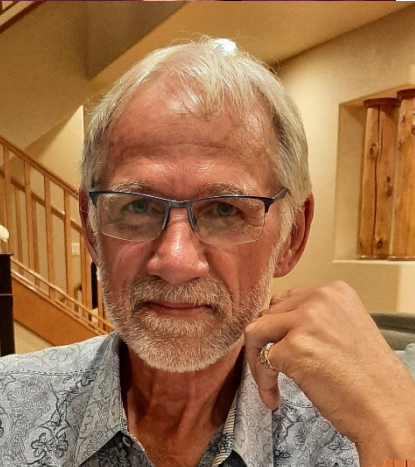
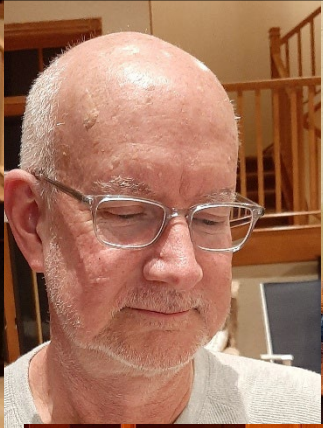
Had I heard of Poker? Yes! In Western movies and since I had come to live in the US, certainly. Had I ever played? No! So, it was time to visit the Poker Night group...

The Group meets once a month in one of their members' homes at 6:30 p.m., starting with a potluck of appetizers and main dishes, then plays "hard", breaks for desserts, and plays a few more rounds until 9:30 p.m.

I thought I'd participate in the social part and then take pictures while everyone is at play – but by general consensus I was outvoted and had to participate in the game. Simone kindly sat next to me and instructed me in the rules, which, to my great surprise, were easily assimilated. Thanks to lucky cards I even won a couple of games! Needless to say, this turned out a real fun game night for me!



For all non-poker players, I think the most known expression is "THE POKER FACE". Here are a few for your viewing pleasure... 😊



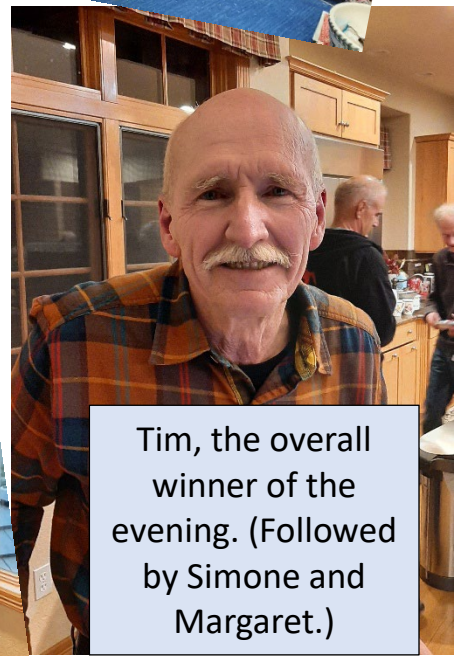
Note a card in the sleeve!!!



Hard at play...



The very yummy part of the evening...



Tim, the overall winner of the evening. (Followed by Simone and Margaret.)

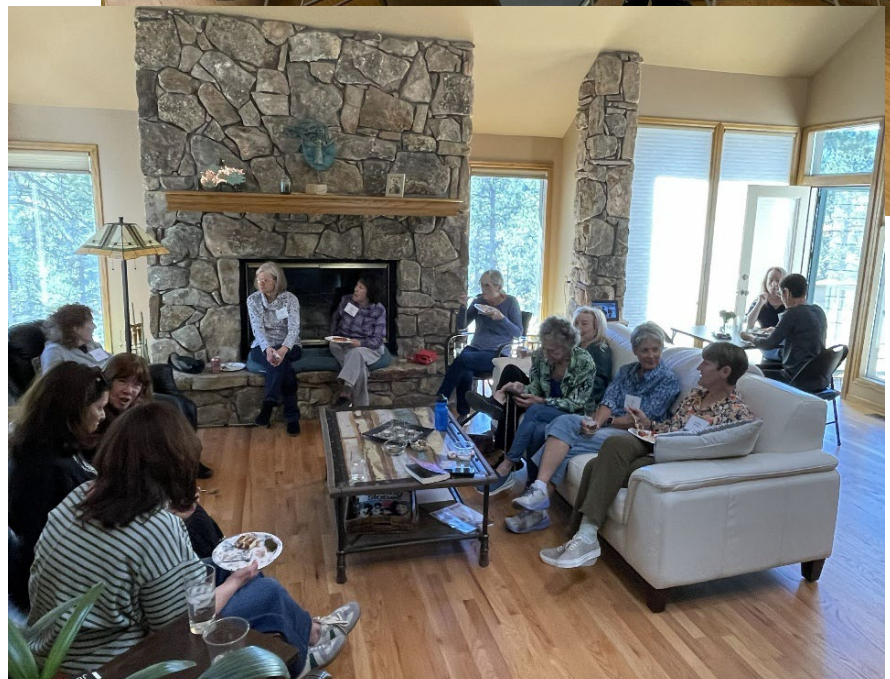




The last Ikon Ski Group outing of the season. We had good times despite the worst snow in years. We are looking forward to next season and much better conditions!

The Literally Amazing Book Club has been into identity thrillers. For our meeting on March 19th, we discussed "The Last Flight" by Julie Clark, where a woman in an abusive relationship and a woman running from the law and a mobster meet in an airport and exchange identities and flights. Then one of the planes goes down...

Our April meeting at the library was a discussion of the book "First Lie Wins" by Ashley Elston. Evie Porter has everything a person could want: a doting boyfriend, a house with a white picket fence, a tight group of friends. The only catch: Evie Porter doesn't exist. She is con artist who is losing her real identity and facing danger from the person who hired her. Our next book will be "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" by Lisa See.



The Mellow Hikers on Mt. Jenkins
on March 14.



WINE GROUPS

ENN members appreciate a good bottle of wine and enjoy the good company of fellow members! Here is a listing of the current ENN Wine Groups:

Corkscrews	Donn & Cassie Fishbein	3rd Saturday
Grape Nuts (& Barley Hoppers)	Trish Wilson	2nd Friday or Saturday
Guzzlers	Roger & Sheri Matz	3rd Saturday
EverPour	Belinda Aber	2nd Wednesday
In Vino Veritas	Bob Fudge	3rd Saturday
Les Dégustateurs	Carrie Garczynski	1st Saturday (alt. mos.)
The Screwtops	Jen Delacruz	2nd Saturday
SOLO Winers & Diners	Donna Lomax	1st Saturday
Uncorked	Ray Trevisan	2nd Saturday
Winos	Colette Lambert	3rd Saturday

Little ENN Challenge:
Carol is currently a member of EIGHT ENN groups – let us know if you can beat this record!



The ENN Motorcycle Group is beginning to stir from its hibernation. Our first ride of the season will be Saturday, May 23. We'll meet at the Evergreen Bread Lounge for breakfast at 8:30 am and launch from there about 9:30 am.
Free image by Filmwerk Kiel (Pixaby)

The ENN Gals' Breakfast group met for our March breakfast on Friday, March 27, at the Evergreen Bread Lounge, which many of us know from our Happy Hours. A group of nine ladies enjoyed a delicious breakfast and some friendly chatter at one of our favorite Evergreen breakfast spots.

Our April Breakfast was held on Friday, April 24 at the Aspen Perk Cafe, 27182 Main Street in Conifer.

New members are invited to join us for breakfast and a fun gathering on the last Friday of each month at varying restaurants in the Evergreen and Metropolitan Denver areas.
Free image by congerdesign (Pixaby)





March meeting with Jeffco

SWAG (Strong Women Always Growing) is a fun and educational ladies' group that focuses on learning about our community, local businesses, and non-profits as well as other interesting topics. We always ensure that our meetings include refreshments and socialization, plus that month's educational topic. In March, we invited Alicia Doran, the Invasive Species Management Coordinator for Jefferson County Open Space, to present information on the mountain pine beetle outbreak and what we can do to protect our trees. It was a highly informative meeting, and our members came prepared with great questions! We all learned what steps to take to protect our properties. Warmest thanks to Susan Hall and Linda Glandt for the lovely refreshments.



April meeting at Center for the Arts and lunch at Moonga

April brought us to the Center for the Arts Evergreen (CAE) where we enjoyed a tour conducted by Executive Director Susan Miller of their International Pastel Exhibition. There couldn't have been a better tour guide, and we were able to enjoy the art in deeper ways. This month, instead of refreshments, most of us met at Moonga for an early lunch prior to the tour, which was great fun!



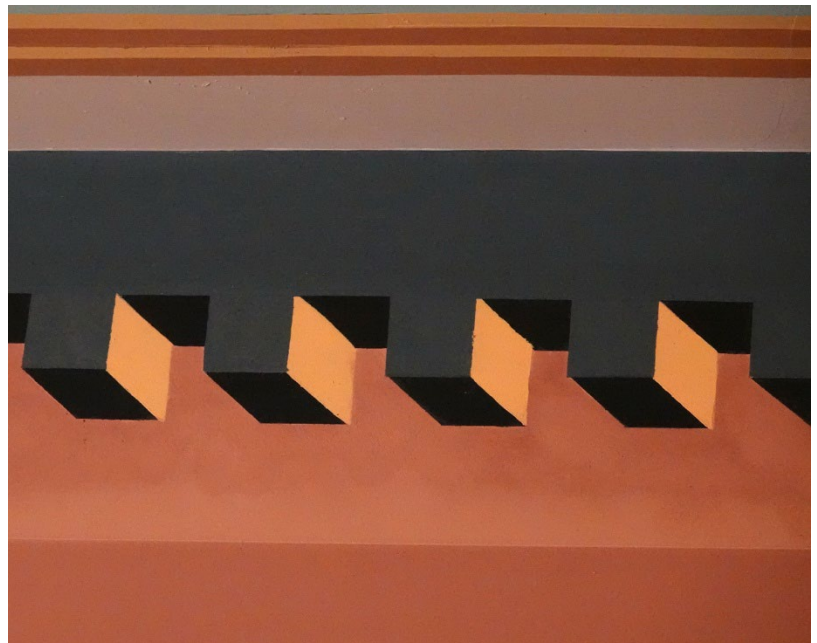
At our May meeting we will be hands-on, learning how to do flower arranging by Sedum & Sage, and in June we will learn about the work of the non-profit, PeaceWorks. More details to come...

SWAG meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 1-3pm. We are always seeking new ideas, new members and new energy! If you want to join our group, please reach out to Activities@EvergreenNewcomers.com. Come and make new friends!



The ShutterBugs activity group continues to explore good photo opportunities around the Evergreen area through group shoots, and improve our individual skills through photo challenges and sharing meetings. The following are images from our activities over the past two months.







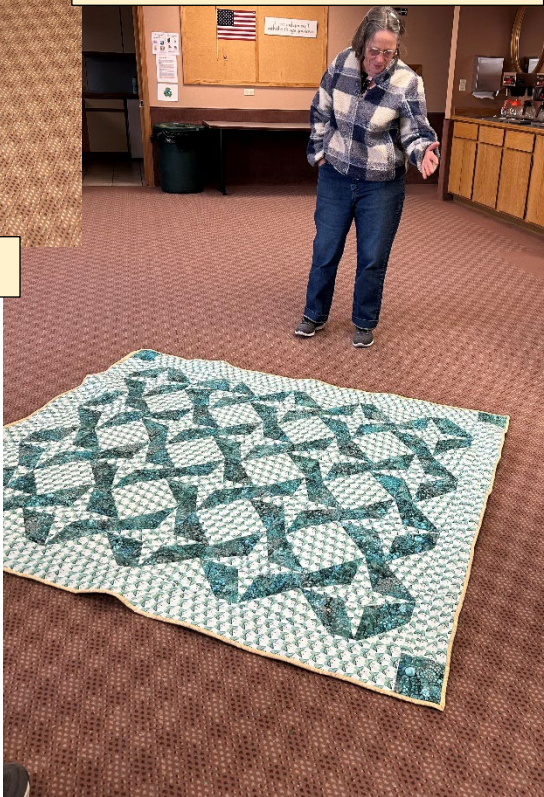
The creativity of the Blue Sky Quilters is amazing!

Carol's ugly sweater quilt



Jo's Smoky the Bear quilt

Linda's windmill quilt



Mindy's batik quilt



Debby's Kawai bag for her trip there

ENN Board of Directors 2025 - 2026

President

Mike Ferrari, president@evergreennewcomers.com

Vice President

Chris Schmenk, vicepresident@evergreennewcomers.com

Secretary

Susan Hall, secretary@evergreennewcomers.com

Treasurer

Janet Harting, treasurer@evergreennewcomers.com

Activities

Chris Schmenk, activities@evergreennewcomers.com

Communications

Sandy Illich, communications@evergreennewcomers.com

Community Involvement

Rebecca Balentine, community@evergreennewcomers.com

Events

Mary Ermides, events@evergreennewcomers.com

Hospitality

Lori Main, hospitality@evergreennewcomers.com

Membership

Carol Rapp, membership@evergreennewcomers.com

Newsletter

Kathrin Schroeter, newsletter@evergreennewcomers.com

Publicity

Randi London, publicity@evergreennewcomers.com

Webmaster

Rob Wilson, webmaster@evergreennewcomers.com

ENN Activity Groups: Chris Schmenk

Activities@EvergreenNewcomers.com

To contact any group leader, send email to Activities@Evergreennewcomers.com.

You will receive a direct response from the leader.

ENN ACTIVITY GROUPS		
Activity	Leaders	Schedule
14er Mountaineering	Rob Wilson	Various Saturdays
4 X 4	Bob Ogden & Tony Oliver	Various Sat.'s & occasional mid-week day trips; long wknd trips (Seasonal)
Blue Sky Quilters	Sandy Illich	2nd & 4th Monday, 9 AM
Bowling	Lisa Morton	1st Tuesday, 6:30 PM
Bridge Evening	Jean Wells & Joanne Hill	3rd Friday Evening
Canasta	Donna Lomax	2nd & 4th Wednesday, 1-3:30 PM
Casual Cuisine	Dawn Harper	2nd Saturday, 5:30 PM
Easy Walkers	TBD	2nd Wednesday, 9 AM
Euchre	Chris Schmenk	Thursday of choice, 6:30 – 9 PM
French Conversation	Mark Ellis	4th Saturday, 4:30 PM
Gals' Breakfast	Louise Whiteside	Last Friday, 10 AM
Guys' Breakfast	Kevin Kerr	2nd Tuesday, 8:30 AM
Happy Hour	Lori Main	3rd Tuesday, 4 – 6 PM
Ladies Golf	Katy Lynch	Wednesday (seasonal)
Lend-A-Book	Simone Simpson	3rd Monday, 10 AM
Literally Amazing Book Club	Jan Cryns	3rd Thursday, 1 PM
Mah Jongg (daytime)	Mindy Nitkin	Fridays, 10 AM - Noon
Mah Jongg (evening)	Simone Simpson	Mondays, 6:30 PM
Mellow Hikers - Weekday	Mary and Phil Hudson	4th Thursday, 5:30 PM
Mellow Hikers – Weekend	Jen Delacruz	2nd Saturday, 9 AM
Mexican Train	Lori Chaikin	1st and 3rd Wed., 1-3:30 pm
Motorcycles	John Griggs	Various Saturdays (seasonal)
Needlework	Sheri Matz	1st Monday, 10 AM
Nonfiction Book Club	Lora Mazza	1st Wednesday, 7 PM
Poker Night	Rose and John Warren	Fridays, Monthly
RV Camping	Lisa and Will Cassidy	TBD
Shutterbugs	Marko Ginsberg	1st & 3rd Friday Mornings
Ski Group (EPIC)	Rob Wilson	Thursdays (Seasonal)
Ski Group (IKON)	Pam Talley	Tuesdays (Seasonal)
Ski Group (Loveland)	Hap Bruce	Mondays (Seasonal)
Sporting Clays	Alan Palestine	3rd or 4th Tuesday
Summer Hiking Group (SHG)	Paul Butters, assist. Pam Talley, Mike Schmenk	Thursday Mornings; May-October
SWAG (Strong Women Always Growing)	Marilyn Innerfeld, Barb Conroy	3rd Tuesday, 1 PM - 3 PM
Wine Groups (10)	See listing on page 15	1st, 2nd, & 3rd Saturdays

Current ENN Membership is required for participation in any activity.