

President's Message:

As the saying goes, "If you don't like the weather, wait a minute." As I write this, the Kennebunks are also being affected by the massive weather pattern sweeping much of the United States. It's nearly 10 a.m., and the temperature is a balmy 7 degrees Fahrenheit. Tomorrow the storm presently howling through the Western and Midwest is predicted to deliver 8-12 inches of snow. Looks like this may be another winter where we earn our spring.

January's Zoom program on research into the history of the people of color in this region was fascinating and through a stroke of luck, supported Kenneth's Robert's research for his book *Arundel*, recently read by the Mainely Readers book club. February's program will feature a speaker from the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust on the area's many outdoor activities – available once we finish digging out from under the snow and ice. No fair gloating, those of you in warmer climates. Well, o.k.— but just among yourselves.

And a snow/sun day request: You should shortly be receiving a brief survey asking what benefits Neighbors and Newcomers bring to your life and what you'd like to see added, changed, etc. I hope you can take a few minutes to complete and return it.

Ann B

February 5, 2026, Zoom Meeting
Thomas Bradbury, Executive Director of the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust
6:30 pm Social and business
7:00 pm Speaker

Nature Trails & Conservation Secrets
CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE THROUGH EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

The Kennebunkport Conservation Trust preserves and stewards land to learn from its ecology and history, to protect and restore its diverse habitats, and to be inspired by its natural beauty. They have protected over 3,000 acres of land, and over 30 miles of trails. Thomas Bradbury will talk with us about how the Trust connects people with nature through education, experience and community.

Breakfast Group: Tuesday, February 10 at 9:30 am at Mike's American Diner, 1132 Portland Road, Route 1, Arundel. Respond to Kathy Johnson if you plan to attend.

Bridge at Duffy's: We have a great group of players every week, of all skill levels. Even if you haven't played in many years, you will remember and have fun. On Wednesdays, lunch at 12:30 pm and then bridge from 1:30 to 3:30. Please join us. Leader: Tom Boak

Beachside Bookenders: The next meeting will be held on February 12 at the home of Ann Boyce at 2:30 pm weather permitting.

The topic of discussion will be the book *Raising Hare* by Chloe Dalton, a memoir. The author rescues a hare during Covid and that act opens her heart and mind to a wider world.

Please join us. If you have any questions please contact Donna Gomez.

Knitting, Crochet and Crafts: Monday, February 16, 1:30-3:30 pm at Nancy Flynn's home in Kennebunk. RSVP to Kate Bauer Burke.

Mainly Readers: had an excellent discussion of Kenneth Roberts' *Arundel* in January! For February, we are reading *Fire Exit* by Morgan Talty and will be meeting at Kate Bauer Burke's house at 11:00 am on February 20. For those attending via Zoom, details will be sent a few days before. Any questions, please contact Ann Boyce or with any questions.

Men's Trivia Lunch! The once-per month trivia lunch at Duffy's is scheduled at noon on the second Tuesday of each month. Please let John Ware know if you plan to attend so that Duffy's can arrange the seating for the February 10 lunch.

Save the Date!

Our March 5th meeting will be our annual Membership Potluck!

We will gather at the Community House from 6 to 8.

This year we are planning a Bleak Midwinter Comfort Food Festival!

Think about your favorite cold weather, comfort food and bring some to share. Our business meeting will be brief; we will concentrate on eating and conversation. Beverages will be provided, along with paper goods and power strips for slow cookers and warming pads.

There is no charge, but please let us know if you are coming and what you think you will bring. (We want mostly hot dishes but will need a few salads and desserts.)

RSVP to Alice Ferran

The Membership Directory

The Newcomers & Neighbors 2025-2026 Directory is available for those of you who have not yet picked up your copy. These will be available at the March meeting of the Club, the Spring Social, to be held March 5, 2026, at the Community Center. See you there!

New Member Profile:

Kenneth Evans Rowe (Ken) joined Newcomers and Neighbors in September 2025. Ken's partner, Sue Keith, played Bridge with the N and N group. Ken heard the players talking about a group within N and N that was saving money on home heating fuel. He liked the people he met within the Bridge group, and he liked the idea of saving money on heating his home. He decided to join our club.

Ken was born and raised in Livermore Falls, ME in Androscoggin County. He lived there until age 13 and then he moved to MA. He returned to ME five years later for college. Ken has lived in Belmont, MA, Holliston, MA, Kennebunkport, and Port Charlotte, FL. His family owned a cottage on Goose Rocks and eventually he bought them out. He now lives in Goose Rocks Beach part-time and the rest of his time he is in Port Charlotte.

Ken attended Bowdoin College in Brunswick. He earned a B.A. in economics. He played on their record setting basketball team in 1968 – 1969. He spent 2 college summers in Quantico, VA as part of the Marine Corp PLC program. Upon graduation he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant. He joined the Marines for 2 ½ years. His tour included commanding a Red Eye and a Hawk Missile platoon in California. He was given an early release to go to graduate school at Rutgers University in NJ. There he earned his MBA. Then he worked for Peat, Marwick and Mitchell as a CPA in Boston for 4+ years. He moved on to Computervision in Bedford, MA for 10 years. He later worked as CFO for a fiber optic cable company and eventually retired from there.

Ken has three older siblings. Kay, Tom and Susan. He also has a stepbrother, Bruce, in Rockport, ME and a half sister, Nancy, in Camden.

Ken is a grandpa to 5 grandkids. He had three children. His son Tim lives in Seattle, WA. Another son, Andrew is in Scarborough, ME. His daughter, Amanda lived in Cape Elizabeth. Cancer ended Amanda's life in 2019, and Joanne's in 2021, his wife of 50 years.

Ken is enjoying retirement and spends time playing golf, bridge and poker. He belongs to Riverwood Golf Club in Port Charlotte and Biddeford- Saco Country Club in Saco. This past July Ken and Sue took a Holland America cruise along the Adriatic Coast. He visited Greece, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia and Italy. They have a Caribbean cruise planned for December 2026.

Let's give a warm welcome to Ken!

A fond farewell:



Dawn Clements was a member of Newcomers from 1998 until 2022 when she moved to be near her daughter, Karine in Pennsylvania. Peg Nelson recently received a letter from Karine addressed to “Family and Friends” in which she shared that Dawn was 91 when she passed on September 22, 2025 the first day of autumn, a favorite season known for cooler air, falling leaves and as Dawn would say, “the perfect excuse for a nice cuppa tea” proving in true British fashion that she could time her exit with the change of seasons.

Dawn emigrated from England to America at the age of 22 and by 1996 was married with a daughter when she became a naturalized citizen. Her son was born two years later and Dawn alternately worked and volunteered in New Jersey until retiring in 1996. By 1997 she moved to Maine working part time in B&Bs including the Green Heron Inn, the Fontanay and the English Meadows Inn. She joined Newcomers, volunteered at Laudholm, The Budget Box and the Brick Store Museum where she was the official “tea lady” for 15 years until 2017. Dawn walked extensively and “loved to talk joyfully, endlessly and enthusiastically. She could strike up a conversation with anyone—neighbors, strangers, fellow bus riders, cashiers, tourists, small children, or anyone who made the mistake of standing still long enough.”

Karine’s letter ends with” please join us in early summer of 2026 in Maine as we say goodbye to a gal who truly enjoyed spending time with you.”

Sunshine outreach: If you know of a club member who is sick or hospitalized, please let Donna Gomez know so she can send a card.

Visit on Facebook, share with other members: facebook.com/Kptanewcomers

Check our website for calendar and activities or to refer potential new members
kptanewcomers.org