

MY TURN PAT MERRILL

# Newcomers Club makes transition a bit easier



I am a lifelong “transferee,” frequently being moved to places where I knew no one, and a writer wannabe. Put those two together and you have a

transplanted Arizona resident who is public relations chair for an organization designed to help you find lots of new friends and activities.

Moving far too many times in my life, I learned early on to look for a Newcomers Club in each new town to make friends and find things to do. But when I moved here a few years ago, I had trouble finding one. That is not the case any longer – it’s going to be so easy for you!

## Secrets to the Newcomers Club

And I am going to tell you two secrets about the Newcomers Club of Scottsdale you would never guess from our name: it’s not just for new residents and you don’t need a Scottsdale address to belong.

Our club is certainly designed to assist new residents, but it is also for long-time residents seeking new friends and activities, and anyone having a recent life change such as an empty nest, retirement, change of neighborhood, divorce, marriage or loss of a spouse.

Members includes men, women, singles, couples, retired, working, full-time and snowbirds. There is no limit on how long you may remain a member. Your address matters only regarding where you want to drive as we are unable to provide any transportation services.

In 2015, we became totally updated and are proud of our new online system, which provides instant access to all of our club activities. Thanks to the hard work of our tech-savvy members, of course.

## What it’s all about

We are a non-profit organization which has been in the area for years. We are primarily social in nature, but also have a dedication to charitable involvement by encouraging volunteerism and sponsoring fundraising events. We have activities which include luncheons with and without programs, coffees, lots of food and beverage opportunities, in-home gatherings, wine tastings, cultural outings, educational and reading groups, games, cooking for men and women and outdoor treks. If we don’t have it – we encourage members to start it. No activity requires a long-term commitment. We even have one time events such as an afternoon at the car show.

Our purpose is to provide opportunities for residents to meet new people and develop friendships through social, cultural, educational, charitable and area-specific activities. We have several events to which a prospective member is invited to see what we have to offer (these do require an online registration).

Now here is the really easy part, our website at [www.newcomersclubofscottsdale.com](http://www.newcomersclubofscottsdale.com) has everything you need. The homepage is full of information for non-members and provides a very easy process to sign up for a visit or register and pay \$25 to join. Once you become a member, you set up your password and receive access to the calendar and club information. You can take part in one single event or every event – it is up to you.

Guaranteed – you will never be bored! We look forward to meeting you.

*Pat Merrill is a Scottsdale resident and part of the Newcomers Club of Scottsdale.*

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