

EARLY HISTORY OF KENMURE NEWCOMERS CLUB

by Betty Watson

During the summer of 1998 the idea of a Newcomers Club was brought before the Kenmure Board of Governors by Alice Soder, who was on the board as liaison to the Social Committee. The idea was endorsed, but KBOG did not want to be responsible for the actual creation of the club. It was agreed that it might be a project for the Social Committee to pursue.

Alice presented the Social Committee with the idea and encouraged the committee to spear head the new organization.

Betty Watson, Secretary of the Social Committee, volunteered to publicize the concept in the Kenmure Newsletter. The first notice invited all interested people who had been in Kenmure up to six months to contact Betty. Due to limited response the length of residency was extended to one year. A second announcement appeared in the next Newsletter with the change in time. Several ladies responded.

Margaret Wagner, Barb Rusch and Sylvia Jordan met at Betty's house in September of 1998 to discuss the possibility of a New Comers Club. The ladies were enthusiastic about the new idea. It was agreed that Sylvia Jordan would host a meeting at her house on Oct. 13th for all interested new comers to Kenmure within the last year.

Twenty-five women signed up and the first meeting was held in November. Sylvia Jordon was chosen the first president. A number of committees were established and committee heads were named. The club got off the ground in fast order with many willing to participate. Some who joined had been in Kenmure as long as three years.

Later as New Comers Club began to be the topic of conversation in a less favorable way among the "old timers" in Kenmure, the Home Owners Association, (which preceded KPOA), voted to invite the New Comers Club to come under the umbrella of the Home Owners Association as a separate organization with representation on the Home Owners Association Board. The reasoning was that if the New Comers Club was endorsed by the Home Owners Association there would be less ill-will among those who had been here too long to join.

Sylvia Jordan was invited to meet with Margo Eld (President) and Betty Watson (Chairman of the Welcoming Committee) to discuss the possibility. Sylvia and Virginia Sweetman met to review the proposal, but the discussion did not persuade Sylvia to become a part of the Home Owners Association. The club remained independent. After several years and a change in officers (perhaps 2003) when Home Owners Association became The Kenmure Property Owners Association, New Comers Club did agree to affiliate with KPOA.