Stone Curves Buddy System (October 2021)

The buddy system aims to ensure that newcomers to Stone Curves receive a hearty welcome, know what living here means, feel part of the community, attend lots of events, and participate in job share.

The buddy's job is to:

1. Meet newcomers the day they arrive, if possible.

2. Sit down with the newcomers within a few days, give them the Welcome Packet (either in a binder from the SC library or copy it from the Members Only section of our website), and go over the 9-page packet with them, elaborating on the information, answering questions, and so on. The packet consists of a) a Welcome Section with a great deal of general information; and b) a New Member Survey that newcomers should fill out and give to the buddy who should deliver it to Judy Thomas (this gets the person on the list serve, the community list and into the calendar.). Note that the Welcome Section includes information about how to get on the Stone Curves list serve and where to get passwords for the Members Only website. It's up to newcomers to start the process, but *buddies should make sure that the* newcomers successfully get on the list serve as well as receive the necessary passwords. This means checking back with the newcomer in a day or so.

3. Give the newcomers a brief tour of the 'Members Only' section of our website, including opening the Job Share document (under the 'Community Living Information' section).

4. Notify Laurel, who will help your new member identify jobs they might be interested in.

5. Send an email message to the whole community introducing and welcoming the newcomers. The introduction should include some bits of personal information (for example: where they came from, where they work, what their interests are, what kind of job-share suits their fancy).

6. Work to see that the newcomers feel welcome at all Stone Curves events. After you've done the official welcoming, above, frequently knock on their door or (second choice) phone or email them and invite them to upcoming community meals, parties, meetings and so on. And escort them to the event. If you yourself can't go, for some reason, find another person to do it for you. Continue doing this and everything else you can think of to help make them part of Stone Curves. Keep on with all this until the new people, even the shy ones, seem to be fully integrated into the community. Expect buddy-dom will last a number of months.