

**CONCORD CARLISLE NEWCOMERS CLUB
GOURMET GROUP
2010-2011**

For those of you who have never participated in the Gourmet Group, it is a great way to get to know some of the other members in the club and develop new friendships. It also gives you the opportunity to try new cuisines and flavors. Both couples and singles are invited to join.

The dinners are held five times during the newcomer season (about every other month). The dates are chosen by the members of the group based on what evenings will work for everyone in the group. I recommend setting the dates early so that everyone can plan around the dinners.

A group is made up of five couples/singles from the gourmet club membership. Each couple/single in that group then will be assigned a number from 1 to 5. The couple/single number 1 will be the group contact that will confirm the dinner date and time with other members of the group, divide the costs for the meals, as well as be the liaison to Kim Cronin, this year's Gourmet Chair Person. Each couple/single in the group will be responsible for either hosting the dinner or a particular course for that meal (appetizer, first course, second course or dessert). The assignments are rotated so that each couple/single will have the opportunity to prepare each course once as well as host. The host couple/single does not cook, but is responsible for purchasing the wine, bread and coffee/tea. All costs for the menu including the wine are shared equally among the participants. The remaining couples/single will prepared the course that they are assigned and bring it to the host's home. In many cases, the majority of the preparation can be done at the home of the couple/single responsible for the course although there are cases were some of the cooking or preparation will need to be done at the host's home.

The menus will be provided at least one month in advance of the dinner by the Gourmet Chair person. The wine list is typically prepared by one of the local wine shops who will match wines to each course. The wines on the list will be available for purchase at that wine shop. In some cases the wines may not be available if a group delays the meal to a later date although the wine shop can make suggestions for alternative wines that will pair well with the food.

If you feel you do not want to commit for a complete season, you are encouraged to become a substitute and will be called upon as needed. If a couple/single cannot attend a dinner, they are responsible for arranging a substitute. Otherwise, they will be asked to prepare their portion of the meal and deliver it to the host's home.

Please sign up as soon as possible so that we can get the groups together and be ready to start in September. All couples in a group must be paid members of CCNC before a group can be formed. For those members that are continuing and want to stay together, please list the couples/single in the group that you want to be with. New groups will be formed on a first come basis. When 5 couples/singles sign up, a new group will be formed. In some cases, we get members that sign up during the course of the year so that groups are formed after we have already started.

Please feel free to contact me and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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