

NEWCOMERS OF CATAWBA VALLEY**2425 North Ctr. St. #169, Hickory NC 28601****www.newcomersofcv.com****March 2014****Officers****President –
Bob Wolgemuth****Vice President
(Membership)
John Bates****Treasurer –
Vince LeGrand****Secretary –
Barb Beck****Directors****Past President-
Kathy Rozea****Publicity –
Lynne Montgomery****Programs –
K. Norusis, D. Straley****Activities Coordinator –
Adra Kryszczuk****Ad-Hoc –
Bob Jones****Chairpersons****Book Club –
S. Asp & B. Schwartz****Bowling –
V. LeGrande****Bridge –
Gloria Berg****Canasta –
C. Reising, C. Parker,
B. Schwartz****Charity Coordinator –
Bates & Glover****Coffee & Conversation –
S. Binning****Evening Socials – R.
Wolgemuth, C. Yokum**

Happy March Everyone!

We are finally getting closer to spring and we deserve it! I hope everyone had a great winter this year even though it was very long. We just had our Gala on Saturday and it was a wonderful event! Thanks to all the committee members for all their hard work in putting this event together. Also thanks to the board for the glass of wine!

March brings the usual events which you can find on the Newcomers' calendar on our web site. We are having happy hour on Thursday, March 13 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM at the Carolina Vines in Newton. Please let Robyn Wolgemuth know if you wish to attend. The flyer went out this weekend.

We have our general meeting on March 12th at 10:00 AM at the Hickory Airport. The speaker is Bob Wolgemuth, oh, that is me!! I will demonstrate how to roast green coffee beans. Come and have fun and stay for an afternoon of games!

That is all for now! Have a great month of March!

Bob Wolgemuth

**Game Night – D. Straley,
C. Knobloch**

**Items of Interest-
Bob Jones**

**Historian –
Kathy Rozea**

**Hospitality –
M. LeGrand & ME Glover**

**Lunch Out –
Marianne Merrill**

**Mah Jongg –
Sonja Bridgwood**

**Members Helping
Members –B. Schwartz**

**Men's Activities –
Vince LeGrand**

**Mexican Train –
S. Kidd & C. Parker**

**Special Events –
C. Sand & V. Pray**

**Webmaster –
Gary Schwartz**

Happy Birthday to Our Members:

March	April
4 – Fred Abernethy 6 – Helen Reed 6 - Candy Sand 7 – Harriet Bates 8 – Sheena Williams 10 – Corwin Kippenhan 11 - Judy Fahrenholz 11 – Shirley Strickland 12 – Monty Matthews 13 – Doris Wallace 19 – Cathy Knobloch 20 - Larry Mosher 22 - Larry Parker	2 – Karen Skulina 8 - Mike Flo 10 – Margie Dickey 10 – Don Baldwin 15 – Bob Jones 15 – Tom Woodyard 15 – Collette T. Wronek 16 – Marianne Merrill 17 – Dianne Straley 18 – Joe Durand 20 – Lesli Garvett 27 – Susan Perkins 27 - Naomi East 30 – Bert Perkins

Please email Barb Beck at ahbbjb@aol.com if your birthday is not listed.

ANNUAL DUES

The new fiscal year for Newcomers starts on April 1st, so it's time to send in your annual dues payment. The dues remain at the same level as this year. The dues are \$25 and are due by April 1st. Please remit your payment (checks should be payable to Newcomers of Catawba Valley) to:

Newcomers of Catawba Valley
2425 N Center St
Box 169 (Please DO NOT put PO in front of Box 169)
Hickory, NC 28601

You can also give your payment to any member of the Board at any Newcomers activity. Thanks, Vince LeGrand, Treasurer

EVENING SOCIALS

Our next social will be at Carolina Vines in Newton on **Thursday, March 13th from 3-6 p.m.** We do have a limited number of occupants allowed due to the fire code, so please make your reservations with Robyn Wolgemuth early. Call her at 828-324-1840 or e-mail wolgemuth@embarqmail.com

GENERAL MEETING/WELCOME COFFEE

Our next General Meeting on March 12th at 10:00 am at Crosswinds Cafe promises to be a very special one. For the program, our own President, Bob Wolgemuth, will show us how coffee which we purchase off the shelves of our stores gets transformed from green beans that are picked off of coffee trees. Yes, the man roasts his own beans. There will even be a small taste so that you can see that there is a difference.

At this meeting, the **election for our officers and directors** for the upcoming fiscal year will be held. The proposed slate will be communicated shortly. Nominations from the floor will be accepted though we ask that you ensure your nominee is willing to serve before you present his/her name. As a reminder, there is one vote per membership. This is an important process within our organization so we hope that many of you will join us.

Following the meeting, we will have an **afternoon of games for all** who would like to participate (we do hope that if you come for games, you will also attend the meeting). We will have lunch at Crosswinds and then play Canasta, Mexican Train, Rummikub, or bring another game of your choice. Please join us for this important, but fun filled day.

QUARTERLY CHARITY

March is the last month to bring donations for **Friends for Animals, Humane Society of Burke County**. Their website, www.burkecountyfriends4animals.org, is full of information regarding all they do for the animals they rescue. Their wish list is as follows:

Blankets, towels, washable pet bedding, all sizes pet dishes (stainless preferred),
Pet carriers and crates, cat litter, litter boxes/pans, pet shampoos
Cotton balls/Q-tips, rubbing alcohol/witch hazel, Vaseline, paper towels
Pet foods & treats, small animal bedding (wood shavings), pump hand soap, toilet paper, Lysol cleaner
Small animal food (rabbit, gerbil, bird); Leashes, collars, halters and other items to sell
Hand creams, laundry detergent, dish detergent (with bleach alternative)
Bleach, rubber/vinyl gloves, empty aluminum cans, Band-Aids, gauze rolls, gauze pads, bandage tape

Please bring any of these items to the general meeting or contact the Glovers at ronandme@charter.net for more information about donations.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

A report highlighting activities, tied directly to the calendar on the Newcomer web site, is emailed by Adra Kryszczuk each week. The calendar is as current as the information that has been provided to Adra by committee chairs. You can see the full details of each activity by going to this link: http://www.newcomersofcv.com/calendar_agenda_view.html. You can also print out a weekly or full monthly list of the activities for future reference.

To all committee heads: please ensure that you provide Adra with current information relative to dates, places and time of your activities. This will ensure that our members have immediate access to the most up-to-date information.

The Board of Directors of Newcomers of Catawba Valley
Would like to Give a Special THANK YOU to the Following Individuals:

To the 2014 Gala Committee, Joyce Dennis, Kay Norusis, Candy Sand and Betty Schwartz, for giving us a fantastically unique and creative event. The Gala was exciting and the atmosphere was electric. The theme of Heart Month with Paris's Heart Beat Café was relaxing and elegant at the same time. Job well done ladies!!

To Bob Dennis for painting an original piece of art and donating it to the Gala for an auction. The painting is a view out of a window of a Paris café of a gorgeous Parisian landscape including the Eiffel Tower. A beautiful painting and we thank you very much. All proceeds were donated to the American Heart Association.

To the Jazz Trio, Gary Schwartz, David Wortman and Charles Smith. The music of this trio was spectacular and added so much to the overall theme of this event. It was such a pleasure to have this special music playing during our dinner hour.

To Connie Yokum, our official photographer for the evening. Job well done and we thank you so much. If you haven't seen the pictures yet, check them out on the website.
<https://picasaweb.google.com/112249397504415106127/2014Gala>

To our DJ, George Brown, and his assistant, Janet Shanahan. Without this music we couldn't do the electric slide or line dance or reminisce on some of the oldies. Thanks to both of you.

To Gary Schwartz, our Auctioneer for this special event. When he wants to stop volunteering his time in the schools, we now know he can get a real job as an Auctioneer. And, as it turns out, he brought in a nice sum of money for the painting, which by the way his wife bought. He may need that job yet. Thank you, Gary.

To Paige Straley for being our auction spotter. Paige helped find all those hands that were either bidding or just scratching their heads. Nice job, thank you.



COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Once a month, Newcomers meet, usually in the afternoon, to share a beverage and just chat. On March 28th, all are invited to come to the **Local Bean in Hudson at 2:00 pm**. For more information, contact Sheri Binning. ronald.binning@gmail.com

CANASTA

Our monthly canasta and lunch at the airport will be held on **Thursday, March 27, 2014**. We will continue having the learning/talking table as long as we have members interested in learning canasta for the first time, refreshing their skills, or learning some strategies.

We do need to remind everyone that if you make a reservation and then cancel after 6 pm on the Monday prior to canasta Thursday, you are still responsible for paying the \$10 for your lunch. We have to pay the caterer for the number of reservations we make, not by who attends. We want to pay the caterer as well as have the correct number of players to fill the tables. We appreciate your cooperation. Contact Carole Reising at creising@embargmail.com for more information.

NIGHT CANASTA

Join us for our first Night Canasta game and dinner, at **6 p.m. March 12 at the Hickory airport**. We will have beef fajitas, rice and refried beans for \$7. Players with last names A-M are asked to bring dessert. We will rotate partners and opponents at every meld, just like day canasta. The only difference is we hope to have lots of men at the game. Our first attempt at Night Canasta was cancelled in February by snow. It is almost spring, so no more snow!! Reserve by 11 p.m. Sunday, March 9, with Dianne Straley dfwhit@gmail.com or Shari Kidd. If you do not cancel your reservation, you still must pay the \$7 cost because the caterer charges us based on the headcount we give her Monday morning.

LUNCH CLUB

Our **Thursday, March 6** lunch will begin at 10:00 a.m. for Ribbon Cutting for Newcomer Susan Van Fleet's aviation company which will be serving the Hickory Regional Airport. After the ceremony, Susan has offered to take us on a tour of the airport (buildings across the street). At 11:30 we will then have a buffet lunch at Crosswinds Cafe. Lunch will cost \$7.00 a person. Let me know if you can make it. It will be great to support Susan in her new endeavor. Contact Marianne Merrill by March 3 to make your lunch reservation merrill_marianne@yahoo.com.

GAME NIGHT

The next Game Night will be **Thursday, March 20 at the Hickory Airport at 6:00 pm**. Come join us, bring a friend, have dinner and play a game of your choice. Since we have to commit to a number for dinner, all no shows will be responsible for paying for their reserved meal. An email will be sent out each month with the cost and menu for dinner. For information, contact Dianne Straley or Cathy Knobloch.

MEN'S ACTIVITIES
(though not limited to men)

Join us on Tuesday, **March 11 at 6:30 pm** or **Thursday, March 27 at 12:00 pm** for a shooting session at the Springs Road Gun Club. The Newcomers Wednesday evening bowling league is in full swing. Contact Vince LeGrand for information on shooting or bowling. legravin@gmail.com or 828-466-8218

MAHJONGG

Daytime MahJongg is on Friday mornings @ 10:30 at Bistro 127. Please contact Sonja Bridgwood for more information or if interested in learning how to play. This is a fun, fast-paced game.

NEWCOMERS BOOK CLUB

About 10 of us met for dinner at LR before attending the talk by Isabel Wilkerson on Feb. 20 at LRU. Several who attended had not read her book "The Warmth of Other Suns", but still found her to be an engaging speaker and her talk very informative.

Our next meeting will be March 26th at 1:30 at the Women's Resource Center at which time we will discuss the nonfiction book "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot. The book chronicles her life and how scientists who know her as HeLa used her cells. She was a poor Southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells-taken without her knowledge-became one of the most important tools in medicine. The first "immortal" human cells grown in culture, they are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years. If you could pile all HeLa cells ever grown onto a scale, they'd weigh more than 50 million metric tons-as much as a hundred Empire State Buildings. HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer, viruses, and the atom bomb's effects; helped lead to important advances like in vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping; and have been bought and sold by the billions. Yet Henrietta Lacks remains virtually unknown, buried in an unmarked grave. If you have any questions, contact Sue Asp (twoasps@gmail.com) or Betty Schwartz (betty69@gmail.com).

BRIDGE

Bridge dates for the month are as follows: **Monday, March 3rd; Wednesday, March 5th; Monday, March 10th; Monday, March 17th; and Wednesday, March 19th.** New members: please contact Gloria Berg (glomcberg@hotmail.com) for details about bridge.

MEXICAN TRAIN DOMINOES

The next Mexican Train will be held on **Tuesday, March 4** at 6:30 pm. Please bring a snack to share and your favorite beverage as well as \$2.00 for the kitty. Place: Shari Kidd's home at 5495 Gunpowder Drive, Hickory. RSVP by Monday, March 3 to sharikidd@hotmail.com or 828-328-4657.

RUMMIKUB

Please check your email for information about Rummikub which is usually held on the second Tuesday of the month in the evening.

BUSY HANDS

This handwork group will meet on Friday, **March 7** and Friday, **March 21** from 1:00-3:00 pm at Habitat for Humanity. Bring any handwork including knitting, crocheting, tatting, embroidery, scrapbooking, beading, etc. Coffee will be provided and everyone is welcome. Contact Collette Wronek at sewalot38@hotmail.com or 704-530-1767.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Information must be submitted by noon on Wednesday of each week. As always, I want to hear from you if you run across any interesting things. **If you aren't familiar with "Items of Interest", go to our web site for guidelines for submission rules. The web site is: newcomersofcv.com.** Click on "**Resources**", & then on "**Items of Interest**". **Please feel free to browse our website, and see what we have to offer!!** If you select our "**Sponsors**" page, you will see those businesses that offer us support. You can then access their web sites by clicking on their individual icon. **If you respond to any of these business ads, PLEASE mention that you saw their ad on our website.** This is how we get advertisers to continue to support us for the future. Thanks, Bob Jones itsmerbj@charter.net

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

The focus of this support group within Newcomers is to coordinate assistance for members and their immediate families who need help due to illness, surgery, hospitalization, death, or other problems. The committee contacts any recommended member to get approval before offering member support and to identify the type of assistance needed. Once specific assistance is identified and approved by the family, the committee sends out requests to the membership.

Types of assistance include hospital and home visits; help with errands and grocery shopping; transportation for shopping and doctor visits; providing books and/or reading to someone; preparing meals; sending cards, etc. Monetary donations are excluded. Newcomer members may contact any committee person. The committee currently includes Betty Schwartz (chairperson), Carol Parker, De Martin and Sonja Bridgwood.

"WANTED" - Advertisers for our Website

If you know of any business or service company that would like to link up with our website as a sponsor, please notify Bob Jones. The ads cost \$35 and run for twelve months after signup which can be at any time during the year. Thank you.

Support our advertisers!!

They are: Catawba Science Center, UPS, Mattie's Pantry, Wine & Design, Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning, Western Piedmont Symphony, Hickory & Catawba Valley Home Builders Association, Catawba Valley Community College, Jack's Christmas (Paige Straley), Dentists Thomas Rider & Allison Reese, ARDC Heating & Air Conditioning, Hickory Museum of Art, Broome Associated Insurance, and Hickory Community Theatre.

Let them know you saw their ad on the Newcomers' web site!