



NEWCOMERS OF CATAWBA VALLEY

2425 North Ctr. St. #169, Hickory NC 28601

www.newcomersofcv.com

September 2014

Officers

**President –
Dianne Straley**

**Vice President
(Membership)
Kay Norusis**

**Treasurer –
Vince LeGrand**

**Secretary –
Barb Beck**

Directors

**Past President-
Bob Wolgemuth**

**Publicity –
Kathy Rozea**

Programs –Pam Wagoner

**Activities Coordinator –
Betty Schwartz**

**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 –
J. & H. Bates**

**Coffee & Conversation –
S. Binning**

Evening Socials –



Notes from our President:

We have good news and bad news. First the bad news. Annual dues for Newcomers of Catawba Valley are rising by \$5 next spring. Instead of the current \$25 fee per household, the 2015 dues will be \$30. Now the

good news. Most of us will still pay \$25. Anyone who has paid their dues by the April 1, 2015, deadline gets a \$5 rebate.

The Newcomers board decided on that change to give all of us a financial incentive to pay our dues on time. Your volunteer board, frankly, spends way too many hours each spring calling members who have not gotten around to paying their dues. Board members would rather be bowling, or playing canasta, bridge or Mah Jongg than hassling you for a \$25 check, so we're trying the \$5 rebate idea.

Get your \$25 check in by April 1 and you will be paying the same level of dues you have paid for years. If you send it in later than April 1, make the amount \$30.

Ever wonder what you get for your money? A chance to participate in bridge, cribbage, Mexican Train Dominoes, Hand and Foot Canasta, bowling, book club, target practice, needlework, Rummikub, lunches out and monthly socials.

Over the next few months you will be invited to join us at a Thai restaurant, golfing, Pacific Island potluck and hula lessons, wine tasting, field trip to Seagrove's Pottery Festival, holiday party, chili competition, in line and shag dance lessons, the symphony and murder mystery dinners. I think that's worth \$25 – if that check arrives on time.

Dianne Straley
President

dfwhit@gmail.com

828-328-1412

Happy Birthday to Our Members:

Game Night – D. Straley

**Items of Interest-
B. Jones**

**Historian –
K. Rozea**

**Hospitality –
M. LeGrand & R. Wolgemuth**

**Lunch Out –
Jones & Paussa**

Mah Jongg – J. Womack

**Members Helping Members –
A. Kryszczuk**

**Men's Activities –
V. LeGrand**

**Mexican Train –
S. Kidd**

**Special Events –
S. Kidd**

Rummikub-M. LeGrand

Evening Canasta-S. Kidd

Busy Hands-C. Wronek

**Webmaster –
Gary Schwartz**

September	October
1 – Joe Strickland 1 - Dan Windham 3 – Sherry Abernethy 6 – Cheryl Stewart 7 – Bob Dennis 7 – Lisa Travis 8 - Beth Osbahr 11 – Elaine Stewart 13 – Elizabeth Strickland 14 – Adra Kryszczuk 15 – Peter Block 16 – Paige Straley 17 – Jane Duralia 17 - Hazel Benau 21 – Al Beck 22 – Lynne Montgomery 23 – John Schafer 23 – Phillip Swann 24 – John Bates 29 – Ron Glover	3 – Zig Kryszczuk 3 – Edward Sawicki 3- Ryan Edwards 6 – Benny Eanes 13 – Linda Monroe 14 – Rege Duralia 21 – Shari Kidd 22- Bonnie Pritchard 23 – Nancy Moses 27 – Connie Yokum 28 – Shirley Moore

Please email Barb Beck at ahbbjb@aol.com if your birthday is not listed or if you would prefer that your birthday not be listed.

Crawdads' Game on August 22:

Close to 50 Newcomers and guests ate hot dogs and BBQ and enjoyed a Crawdad's win. Thanks to Joe and Kathy Durand for planning this always popular outing. The evening was topped off by fireworks set off to the music of the Beatles.



General Meeting/Welcome Coffee

10:30 am, Wednesday September 10 at the Hickory Airport

The speaker for our September meeting will be Dr. Allen Huffman, an expert on pottery in the Catawba Valley. Members will learn how to recognize the value of pottery and can then put this knowledge into practice in November when a group will be going to Seagrove on a pottery expedition! Come for coffee and a snack at 10:30 and then the meeting will start promptly at 10:45.



ALS Ice Bucket Challenge

Come join the fun and help raise money for ALS in honor of our member Al Beck on Wednesday, September 10th at 11:30 following our 10:30 General Meeting at the Airport. If you're a "dunkee" bring a **bucket, change of clothes** and a **towel**, if you're a "dunker" or spectator, please bring a bucket if possible, but most of all **bring your checkbook!** Remember, your donation is tax deductible. Questions? Email Bev Forrest bnforrest@embarqmail.com

Quarterly Charity

September is the last month for our third quarter charity, the Women's Resource Center in Hickory. Items needed include: toothbrushes & paste; shampoo, conditioner, body wash; feminine products in small packages; toilet paper, tissues, and paper towels; razors; laundry detergents; all types of cleaners; bleach & dryer sheets. Also needed are clothes that women can wear for interviews such as: jackets, slacks and skirts in navy, brown or black, particularly in sizes 14-24, and blouses and dresses in solid colors or small prints. Dress shoes in navy, black or brown; new underwear; scrub or medical uniforms; white button-down shirts and khaki or dark washable pants; handbags, jewelry and accessories are needed. All clothing should be freshly cleaned or washed and on hangers. Questions? Contact Harriet or John Bates johnwbates@gmail.com. Especially needed are the following: **Deodorant, Hand Soap, Hand Lotion, Kleenex, Paper Towels, Dish Detergent, & All Purpose Cleaner (409, etc.)**.

Weekly Activities Report

After an extremely busy summer full of special Newcomer activities (dinner at the Catawba Springs Country Club, pontoon party, Laser Show at the Planetarium, pool party, and Crawdad's game), September will be a bit quieter except for the normal weekly games. Due to the Labor Day holiday, Mexican Train will not be held this month. Please remember to use the calendar on the web site http://newcomersofcv.com/calendar_of_events.html to stay up to date on all the latest info. For questions or information, please contact Betty Schwartz at betty69@gmail.com

Coffee and Conversation

Once a month, Newcomers meet, usually on the fourth Friday in the afternoon, to share a beverage and just chat. For more information, contact Sheri Binning at ronald.binning@gmail.com

Night Canasta Plus

We are tweaking arrangements for Night Canasta, and its new name – Night Canasta Plus – tells the story. Currently, you can play **Hand and Foot Canasta with us at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday** of each month at the Hickory Regional Airport. But starting in September, you can play canasta and other games, too. Think of it as another Game Night.

I still expect to have four or five tables of people playing canasta on the evening of **Sept. 10**. But if canasta is not for you or we don't have enough players to field another table, you are welcome to play cribbage, Mexican Train, Rummikub or other games. I'm trying to be more flexible by offering Night Canasta Plus. This means I no longer will keep a waiting list or turn people away because we don't have enough players for a full four-person table. Give us a try. We have lots of men and women playing, and we rotate partners after each meld.

Our meal is catered by Crosswinds Cafe and cost \$7. On the menu this month will be chicken tenders, roasted red potatoes, green salad, bread sticks and ice tea. Players with the last names N-Z are asked to bring a dessert to share. Deadline to sign up for Night Canasta Plus is 11 p.m. Sept. 7, with me: dfwhit@gmail.com Dianne Straley

Daytime Canasta

We had 9 tables of canasta in August including the learning table. The high scores were as follows: **Bev Forrest** with 19,715, **Barb Laufer** with 18,155, **Connie Yokum** with 18,145 & **Helen Reed** with 17,725. It was a lot of fun and we hope to see everyone back again.

This month's canasta and lunch at the airport will be held on **Thursday, September 25 at 11:30 am**. Canasta, lunch, dessert and a beverage is \$10 and canasta with a dessert and a beverage is \$5. 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 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. To join in on the fun, contact Carole Reising at creising@embarqmail.com

The fourth Thursday of November is Thanksgiving and the fourth Thursday of December is Christmas. Therefore, the plan is to have canasta in those two months on the 2nd Thursday. Thanks to those who have contributed gifts for prizes for canasta. We can always use more. Please give any donated items to Betty Schwartz, Carol Parker, or Carole Reising.

Bridge

Bridge dates for the month of September are as follows: **Wednesday, September 3, Monday, Sept. 8, Monday Sept. 15, and Wednesday, Sept. 17**. New members: please contact Gloria Berg (glomcberg@hotmail.com) for details about bridge.

Lunch Out

On **September 4th**, we will be having lunch at: **Olde Hickory Station** located at 232 Government Ave. in downtown Hickory at **11:45 a.m.** They have daily specials as well as items off the menu. Please check out their menu at: <http://www.oldehickorystation.com/menu.html>

We will be on the deck which is weather accommodating. If you have not been there previously, they have numerous fans & it is really very comfortable. There is a parking lot at the side of the restaurant as well as street parking.

Please respond to Maureen Jones with the number of people who will be attending at: mfj1947@gmail.com **September 3rd, noon** is the deadline to RSVP. Hope to see you there!

Game Night

The next Game Night will be on **Thursday, September 18 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 dfwhit.@gmail.com.

Men's Activities **(though not limited to men)**

Join us on Tuesday, **September 9 at 6:30 pm** or **September 25 at 12:00 pm** for a shooting session at the Springs Road Gun Club. Contact Vince LeGrand for information on shooting legravin@gmail.com or 828-466-8218.

We may be sweltering in the heat of summer, but the temperature will soon start dropping (just like the leaves). That can mean only one thing: ***It's time for Newcomers Bowling; This year will be the 5th season of Newcomers Bowling.***

I would like to thank all of the Newcomers who have participated in bowling over the past 4 years. For those Newcomers who have not participated in Newcomers Bowling before, it is a non-sanctioned bowling league. We bowl for fun and all abilities are welcome. Many of us hadn't bowled in 25+ years prior to bowling with Newcomers. We only bowl every other week so that everyone has plenty of time to recover before the next bowling session.

We bowl at **Colonial Lanes on Route 70** in Hickory directly across from the Valley Hills Mall. If you are not familiar with Colonial Lanes, here is a link to their website: <http://amf.com/coloniallanes> In a very close vote, last year's bowlers voted to switch our bowling night to Thursday. We will bowl every other Thursday evening (skipping some holidays) beginning at 7:00 pm. We bowl 3 games. I believe the price will be the same as last year: \$7.50 per person. If you don't have bowling shoes, there is an additional charge to rent shoes.

We do not have teams; everyone bowls as an individual. You pay each time we bowl. There is no financial penalty for missing a week. You have the option to make up your missed session. Since we are not a sanctioned league, people can join and start bowling throughout the season. We do receive the benefits of being league bowlers such as discounts at the snack bar. The benefits do change from year to year. I will find out what the benefits are for this fall within the next couple of weeks.

Our schedule of 12 sessions will be:

September 25, October 9, October 23, November 6, November 20, December 4, December 18, January 8, January 22, February 5, February 19, March 5. Assuming we decide to extend our bowling season (as we have done every previous year), the extended dates would be: March 19 & April 2. If you would like more information, please send me an e-mail or give me a call. Looking forward to seeing many of you out there on the lanes. **If you wish to participate, please let me know by Monday, September 8th.** Vince LeGrand: legravin@gmail.com

Book Club

Our current book selection is "**The Girl You Left Behind**" by Jojo Moyes. In 1916 in France, artist Edouard Lefevre leaves his young wife, Sophie, to fight at the front. When their small town falls to the Germans in the midst of World War I, Edouard's portrait of Sophie draws the eye of the new Kommandant. As the officer's dangerous obsession deepens, Sophie will risk everything—her family, her reputation, and her life—to see her husband again. Almost a century later, Sophie's portrait is given to Liv Halston by her young husband shortly before his sudden death. A chance encounter reveals the painting's true worth, and a battle begins for who its legitimate owner is, putting Liv's belief in what is right to the ultimate test.

This book will be discussed at our next meeting which is **Sept. 24th** at the Women's Resource Center at 1:30 pm. Please contact Sue Asp twoasps@gmail.com or Betty Schwartz bettyesch69@gmail.com for more information.

Mah Jongg

Daytime Mah Jongg is held on Friday mornings @ 10:30 am at Pinecrest Retirement Community in Hickory. Please contact JoAnn Womack for information at 256-3495 or joannwomack@embarqmail.com. This is a fun, fast-paced game.

Calendar

The monthly calendar will no longer appear in the newsletter, but you can always access it by going to the Newcomers website at: http://www.newcomersofcv.com/calendar_of_events.html

Mexican Train Dominoes

There will be **no Mexican Train** in September. Watch for information about the October Mexican Train evening or contact Shari Kidd at sharikidd@hotmail.com or 828-328-4657.

Rummikub

Rummikub will be held on Tuesday, **September 9 at 6:30** pm. Watch for information about Rummikub or contact Michele LeGrand exermom@gmail.com

Busy Hands

The Busy Hands group **will not meet in September**. Starting in October, the group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 1:00 pm at Habitat for Humanity. Habitat is located at 1545 8th St Dr. SE, just off Route 70 across from Home Depot on 8th street. All are welcome to come, do handwork, have coffee, and enjoy each other's company. Hope to see you! Call Collette Wronek at 704-530-1767 if you have any questions.

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 Adra Kryszczuk (chairperson) and Betty Schwartz. For more information, contact Adra at adraellen@yahoo.com.



Author and historian Randell Jones speaking to a large crowd at the Newcomers August general meeting.

