



**NEWCOMERS OF CATAWBA VALLEY**  
2425 North Ctr. St. #169, Hickory NC 28601  
[www.newcomersofcv.com](http://www.newcomersofcv.com)

**October 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:**

If you have gone on a Newcomers' field trip, taken part in our book club or played Mah Jongg, you know why this club is so successful. In a typical month, there are about 20 events on our calendar – and that means lots of choices and fun for our members. We have dozens of members working to organize and run our many fun activities. Sometimes that is as easy as putting a regularly scheduled event on the calendar and the usual players just show up.

For other activities, it means taking reservations, collecting money, setting a menu and running the show. I think one of the most difficult events we have to organize is the monthly canasta game, held at 11:30 a.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at the airport. Leaders Betty Schwartz, Carol Parker and Carole Reising come early and stay late to make this happen. They've put together a learning table to introduce our version of Hand and Foot Canasta to new players. And they juggle reservations to make sure there are always four players at each table, even if there is no room for all three of them to play.

Others like Shari Kidd, assisted by her sister Donna Wilson, open their home to players. Want to play Mexican Train? Go to Shari's house the first Tuesday of each month. I am patting all our activity chairs on the back this month to bring attention to all the good work they do. And I am inviting any of you who regularly take part to ask your host if there is anything you can do to help. Sometimes it is as simple as handing out playing cards. Or maybe they are going on vacation and need a sub. If you like to play, offer your help. It will be appreciated.

**Dianne Straley, President**

**Here is a list of our activity leaders. Tell them thanks!**

**Book Club:** Sue Asp and Betty Schwartz

**Bowling & Shooting:** Vince LeGrand

**Bridge:** Gloria Berg

**Busy Hands:** Collette Wronek

**Canasta:** Carole Reising, Carol Parker, Betty Schwartz

**Charity:** John and Harriet Bates

**Coffee and Conversation:** Sheri Binning

**Items of Interest:** Bob Jones

**Game Night:** Dianne Straley

**Historian:** Kathy Rozea

**Hospitality & Rummikub:** Michele LeGrand

**Lunch Out:** Joneses and Paussas

**Members Helping Members:** Adra Kryszczuk

**Mah Jongg:** Jo Ann Womack

**Mexican Train:** Shari Kidd and Donna Wilson

**Night Canasta Plus:** Dianne Straley, Shari Kidd

**Webmaster:** Gary Schwartz

**Winter Gala:** Kay Norusis

**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**

## Happy Birthday to Our Members:

October	November
3 – Zig Kryszczuk 3 – Edward Sawicki 3 – Ryan Edwards 6 – Benny Eanes 13 – Linda Monroe 14 – Rege Duralia 21 – Shari Kidd 22- Bonnie Pritchard 27 – Connie Yokum 28 – Shirley Moore	2- Amanda Edwards 3 – Dick Martin 6 – Bob Kidd 11 – Phil Norusis 13 -Margaret Wesche 27 – Kathy Rozea

Please email Barb Beck at [ahbbjb@aol.com](mailto:ahbbjb@aol.com) if your birthday is not listed or if you would prefer that your birthday not be listed.

### **New members: What a deal!**

Do you have friends or neighbors who may want to join Newcomers? Now's the time. Membership is \$25 a year for a family, but since our year is half gone, the price is now only \$12.50. Print out a membership application from [www.newcomersofcv.com](http://www.newcomersofcv.com) and mail it to the address on the form.

### **Thai dinner on September 27**

Long-time member Linda Monroe welcomed 22 members and guests to a Newcomers dinner at Thai Lotus on Saturday, Sept. 27. We had a buffet and met two couples who are prospective members – the Conrads and Dees families.

Thanks to Linda for choosing the menu and coordinating with the Viewmont restaurant for a fun evening. If you would like to organize a restaurant meal for Newcomers next year, please contact Dianne Straley at 328-1412 or [dfwhit@gmail.com](mailto:dfwhit@gmail.com).

### **ALS Ice Bucket Challenge**



Bev Forrest organized our challenge. Five Newcomer members got dunked after the September meeting and a large number of members contributed to the NC ALS Organization. All told, \$725 was donated in honor of member Al Beck. We thank Bev for promoting this cause and for all her hard work and ENTHUSIASM!!

## General Meeting/Welcome Coffee

**10:30 am, Wednesday, October 8 at the Hickory Airport**

The speaker for this meeting will be a Catawba County Sheriff's deputy who will talk about fraud and scams of which we should be aware. We will learn ways to protect ourselves from dishonest people trying to harm us or take our money.

Come for coffee and a snack at 10:30 and then the meeting will start promptly at 10:45.

## Quarterly Charity

Our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter charity will be the **Bethlehem Good Samaritan Food Pantry** in **Alexander County**. The coordinator has provide us with some history and information about their operations:

The Food Pantry at Mt Pisgah Lutheran Church in Bethlehem has been in operation for about 28 years. It was founded by Karen Schmidt in 1986. After her passing in 1998, the pantry was directed by her husband, Dick Schmidt. Dick is currently in a rest home in Charlotte and Sandy Moore is the current coordinator.

The Food Pantry receives Federal and North Carolina foods, as well as salvage and food drive products from the Second Harvest Food Bank of NW North Carolina. The pantry is also able to purchase meat and eggs from the food bank. Although this greatly helps to stock the shelves, it is not enough to feed all clients. Clients are given what amounts to about 7 days of food plus a health kit each month. The health kit includes **toilet paper**, **bar soap** and either **shampoo** or **toothpaste**. To fill in the shelves, food and toiletry items are purchased from local merchants, plus donations of food and money are received from local churches and organizations.

The pantry serves an average of **185 families** or **575 persons per month**. To assist, you may donate **canned good items**, **health kit items**, or **money** to help with our mission. **Checks** may be made out to the **Good Samaritan Fund**. Thank you for your generosity. Sandy Moore

## Weekly Activities Report

2014 has been a really exciting year for Newcomers with many new and varied activities in which to participate. Now it's time to start planning for next year, and as always, we look forward to suggestions from our members. If you have any ideas, please contact either Dianne Straley or me. And in the meantime, please remember to use the calendar on the web site <http://newcomersofcv.com/calendarofevents.html> to stay up to date on all the latest info. For questions or information, please contact me, Betty Schwartz, at [bettyesch69@gmail.com](mailto:bettyesch69@gmail.com).

## Coffee and Conversation

We will have coffee in **Morganton** at **River View Cafe and Coffeehouse** on **the 24th** (time TBA). Hopefully, we can sit on the deck and see some pretty colored leaves! For more information, contact Sheri Binning at [ronald.binning@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.binning@gmail.com)

### **Night Canasta Plus**

We will play canasta and other games at our **Canasta Plus, 6 p.m. Oct. 8** at the Hickory Regional Airport. Newcomers will provide cards for Canasta and Mexican Train. You are welcome to bring other games as well. On the menu will be Crosswind Cafe's very popular Chicken Pie and green salad, \$7. Members with last names beginning with the letters N-Z are asked to bring a dessert to share. Watch for an email soon from Shari Kidd [sharikidd@hotmail.com](mailto:sharikidd@hotmail.com) about reserving your place.

### **Daytime Canasta**

This month's canasta and lunch at the airport will be held on **Thursday, October 23 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](mailto: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 **2<sup>nd</sup> 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 October are as follows:

**Wednesday, Oct. 1st**

**Monday, Oct. 6th**

**Monday, Oct. 13th**

**Wednesday, Oct. 15th**

**Monday, Oct. 20th**

New members: please contact Gloria Berg ([glomcberg@hotmail.com](mailto:glomcberg@hotmail.com)) for details about bridge.

### **Wine tasting Social**

Member Betty Stone is leading us on a wine tasting adventure on **Sunday, Oct. 19, from 4 to 6 pm** at **Silver Fork Winery in Morganton**. Betty, who is president of the local chapter of the American Wine Society, will lead the tasting, explaining how to evaluate and compare wines on their appearance, aroma, taste and overall characteristics.

There is no better time of year to visit this little hillside winery which overlooks forest and pasture land. It is a beautiful place to be outdoors in the fall. The cost is \$7 and you can picnic afterwards or buy dinner from a gourmet food truck on site, with most prices around \$8. **If you are going, let Betty know by Oct. 17: [bstone1066@aol.com](mailto:bstone1066@aol.com)**

Directions: Take I-40 west from Hickory, to Exit 94, turn left on Dysartsville Road. Go 3 miles and turn left onto Patton Road. Silver Fork Winery is at 5000 Patton Road. The winery is about 40 minutes from downtown Hickory.

### **Lunch Out**

Just a reminder our October luncheon will be on **October 2nd @ 11:30AM.**

Place: **Judge's Riverside Restaurant**

128 Greenlee Ford Road

Morganton, NC 828-433-5798

[www.judgesriverside.com](http://www.judgesriverside.com)

It's about a 30 minute drive and should be very nice this time of year. Also, if interested, you may be able to do some apple picking - or just buy them fresh as there are many orchards in the area. Please sign up by **Tuesday, September 30th.**

Hedy & Joe Paussa [jhpaussa2@gmail.com](mailto:jhpaussa2@gmail.com)

### **Game Night**

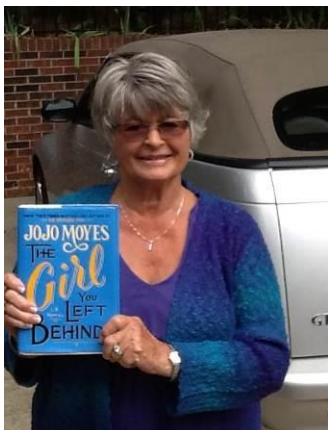
The next Game Night will be on **Thursday, October 16 at the Hickory Airport at 6:00 pm.** Come join us, bring a friend, have dinner and play a game of your choice. Since we have to commit to a number for dinner, all no shows will be responsible for paying for their reserved meal. An email will be sent out each month with the cost and menu for dinner. We play Canasta, Mexican train, cribbage, Rummikub and any other games that you want to bring. Your \$7 fee pays for a dinner of pot roast, real mashed potatoes and green salad. Members with last names beginning with the letters A-M should bring a dessert to share. Shari Kidd will be handling reservations. [sharikidd@hotmail.com](mailto:sharikidd@hotmail.com)

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

Join us on Tuesday, **October 14 at 6:30 pm** or **October 23 at 12:00 pm** for a shooting session at the Springs Road Gun Club. Contact Vince LeGrand for information on shooting [legravin@gmail.com](mailto:legravin@gmail.com) or 828-466-8218. If you are interested in the Newcomers Bowling League, also contact Vince.

### **Mah Jongg**

Mah Jongg meets each Friday morning at 10:30 at Pinecrest Retirement Living on 29th Ave. NE. Please contact JoAnn Womack (256-3495, [joannwomack@earthlink.com](mailto:joannwomack@earthlink.com)) with questions or if you would like to learn to play. She will begin teaching as soon as she has a few people expressing a desire to learn.



**Suzie Matthews with the September book**

### **Book Club**

Our next book club discussion will be on **Nov. 19th** at 1:30 pm at the Women's Resource Center. The book selection for this meeting is the non-fiction **Astronaut Wives Club** by **Lily Koppel**. As America's Mercury Seven astronauts were launched on death-defying missions, television cameras focused on the brave smiles of their young wives. Overnight, these women were transformed from military spouses into American royalty. They had tea with Jackie Kennedy, appeared on the cover of *Life* magazine, and quickly grew into fashion icons.

Annie Glenn, with her picture-perfect marriage, was the envy of the other wives; platinum-blond Rene Carpenter was proclaimed JFK's favorite; and licensed pilot Trudy Cooper arrived on base with a secret. Together with the other wives they formed the Astronaut Wives Club, meeting regularly to provide support and friendship. Many became next-door neighbors and helped to raise each other's children by day, while going to glam parties at night as the country raced to land a man on the Moon. As their celebrity rose-and as divorce and tragic death began to touch their lives, they continued to rally together, and the wives have now been friends for more than fifty years. The book tells the real story of the women who stood beside some of the biggest heroes in American history.

Watch for information about going to hear Rebecca Skloot on **October 23** at **L-R** as part of the Visiting Writer's Series. On **Dec. 3**, we will get together for a holiday luncheon with a possible movie (location TBD). It will soon be time to decide on our list for next year's books. If you've been thinking about joining our group and would like to participate in the upcoming book selections, please contact either of us. Sue Asp [twoasps@gmail.com](mailto:twoasps@gmail.com) or Betty Schwartz [bettysch69@gmail.com](mailto:bettysch69@gmail.com)

### **Mexican Train Dominoes**

**Tuesday October 7th, 6:30 pm**

Please bring snack to share and your favorite beverage, as well as \$2.00 for the Kitty. Please RSVP to Shari by Monday October 6th [Sharikidd@hotmail.com](mailto:Sharikidd@hotmail.com)

Place: Shari Kidd's house  
5495 Gunpowder Drive  
Hickory, NC 28601  
828-328-4657

### **Rummikub**

Rummikub will be held on Tuesday, **October 14 at 6:30** pm at Michele Le Grand's home. Contact Michele [exermom@gmail.com](mailto:exermom@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Busy Hands**

The Busy Hands group will meet on the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays (October 8 and October 22)** 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](mailto: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](mailto:adraellen@yahoo.com).