



NEWCOMERS OF CATAWBA VALLEY
2425 North Ctr. St. #169, Hickory NC 28601
www.newcomersofcv.com

January 2015

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**

Notes from our President:

Once you get to know our organization, you will discover how busy this bunch can be. I don't know another club that offers as much to do – from bowling to bridge, from coffees to canasta. And there's more. We have a shadow club. I'm talking about regular get-togethers our members have organized that don't show up on the club calendar.

Newcomers of Catawba Valley aims to make it easy for people to meet more people. Once you make friends, you're likely to start new activities on your own with your new buddies. The organizers probably have not asked the board of directors to list them as an official Newcomer activity because some players are not Newcomer members, but most are. Or they may have only enough room in their homes for a couple of tables. I see the shadow club as proof of Newcomers' success as we get together on our own.

I probably only know a fraction of the informal groups that Newcomer members have started on their own, but here are a few:

ROMEOs: The guys get together once a month for lunch. Those Retired Old Men Eating Out choose a different restaurant each month – as long as there's room for the dozen or more men who show up.

Mah Jongg: Our calendar shows players meet at 10:30 a.m. on Fridays at Pinecrest retirement apartments, but another group plays at the same spot at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Croquet: I don't know where or when they play, but I've heard talk that there is a men's croquet group made up largely of Newcomers. There's a men's poker group, too. I think betting's involved.

Canasta: If you ask around, you'll hear about a regular canasta group at DaVinci's restaurant and I know of at least three other groups meeting at members' homes. Most but not all players are Newcomers.

Pinochle, Euchre, Mah Jongg and Bridge: They're played regularly in members' homes.

Movies: Tuesday matinees at the Carmike have been a popular destination for several members.

Cribbage: Tuesday night is dedicated to Cribbage at Pinecrest. Some members are investigating whether there is enough interest for a variety of afternoon games at either Highland Recreation Center or Westmont Senior Center for Euchre, Hearts, Spades, Pitch or Cribbage. How do you find out about the shadow club's games? Ask around or start your own.

Dianne Straley dfwhit@gmail.com

Happy Birthday to Our Members:

**Charity Coordinator –
J. & H. Bates**

**Coffee & Conversation –
S. Binning**

Evening Socials –

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**

January

1 – Floyd Clark
1- Lee Wagoner
3- Mary Martorano
7 – Hedy Paussa
8—Don Cooper
8- David Vardo
10 – Miki Valkanoff
16 – Kevin McCutcheon
18 – Sandra Thompson
21 – Barbara Beck
22-Gene Clayton
23 – Sue Bumgarner
23 – Betty Stone
24 – Gary Schwartz
25 – Daniel Ferry
27 – Sue Asp
28 – Bob Connor
30 – Mary Ellen Glover
30 – Edie Ashman
30 - Carolyn Eanes

February

1 – Barb Laufer
3 – Kay Norusis
6 –Mike Rozea
7 – Carol Vardo
8 – Gene Rozea
11 – Larry Laufer
12-John Pritchard
19 – Peg Baldwin
20 – Steven Berg
21 – Sheila Cooke
21 – Joyce Walker
28 – Beth Keane

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.

Welcome to our newest members **Kathy and Chuck Bethany!**

General Meeting/Welcome Coffee

10:30 am, Wednesday, January 14 at the Hickory Airport

Come at 10:30 for coffee and snacks and then the meeting will start at 10:45. Western Piedmont Symphony Orchestra's Paulette Miller will talk to us about the Symphony. We hope you all can join us this month.

Volunteers Needed

Newcomers is seeking one, two or three computer-literate people to take over the job of club webmaster Gary Schwartz. (NOTE: We are not looking for experts – just people who are computer literate.)

Gary has done a wonderful job of keeping the club online, but he is leaving that position to devote more time to his musical callings. He volunteers in the musical program at local middle schools and plays with Hickory Jazz Orchestra.

His webmaster job can be divided into specific duties that two or three people can be responsible for. He plans to hold an informal meeting in January with everyone who wants to know more about how they can help if we carve out parts of the webmaster job. Email or call Gary at garysch69@gmail.com or 495-8702 if you want to know more.

Election of officers

Newcomers of Catawba Valley is looking for people who want to serve on our board or as an officer. You can help in one or two ways:

Committee: Serve on the **Nominating Committee**, headed by Michele LeGrand. Call or email her at 466-8218 or exermom@gmail.com.

Volunteer: If you are interested in knowing more about what's involved in being a club leader, get in touch with Michele or myself, Dianne Straley: 328-1412 or dfwhit@gmail.com

The club will vote at the March 11 meeting on new officers, who take over in April. We will also vote in March on the next year's budget.

Night Games

We're serious about having fun in Newcomers, and you'll see it clearly at our Night Games. Here's what's on tap in January:

Canasta Plus: 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14, at Hickory Regional Airport. Most of us play hand and foot canasta, but we also have tables for any other games you want. We often also have Mexican Train dominoes or Rummikub. Playing cards and dominoes are provided by the club. Bring any other game you want to play. On the menu: Taco Salad with beef. Cost. \$7. Reserve your spot by emailing Dianne Straley (dfwhit@gmail.com) by 11 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 11.

Game Night: We are **canceled Game Night in January**. Game Night is the third Thursday of each month, but in January that falls on Jan. 15, the day following Canasta Plus. We will be back in February.

Quarterly Charity

The charity for the 1st quarter of 2015 will be the **Corner Table** in Newton.

(From their website) *The Corner Table is a soup kitchen outreach ministry provided by the people of our community for the hungry of our community. Our primary purpose is to provide nutritious meals in a comfortable environment for any man, woman, and child who is in need. Lunch is served from 11:30 until 12:30 Monday through Friday and a bag meal is given to guests at the end of the week to help them over the weekend.*

The **Corner Table** can use the following items:

1. Vienna Sausages or Potted Meat
2. Peanut Butter Crackers
3. Individual Bags of Chips
4. Fruit Cups or Pudding Cups
5. Cookies
6. Ranch Dressing
7. Ketchup
8. Mayonnaise
9. Sugar
10. Cream of Mushroom or Cream of Chicken Soup

Thanks to all of you who made monetary or food donations to the **Bethlehem Food Pantry**. Approximately \$400 was given to the pantry which helped make the holidays a bit more pleasant for a number of people.

Weekly Activities Report

A special evening social is being planned for **Jan. 25th** when Naomi East and Carol Parker will host a **Hawaiian Dinner and Dance** at the Regional Airport. Come enjoy some delicious food and try the hula (or watch others try the hula??) Please remember to use the calendar on our website (<http://newcomersofcv.com/calendar> of events.html) to stay up to date on the latest regarding all activities.

Coffee and Conversation

Watch for information about the next gathering which is usually held on the 4th Friday afternoon of the month. For more information, contact Sheri Binning at ronald.binning@gmail.com .

Mah Jongg

Mah Jongg meets each Friday morning at 10:30 at Pinecrest Retirement Living on 29 Ave. NE. If you are interested in learning Mah Jongg, please contact JoAnn, 256-3495, joannwomack@embarqmail.com.

Daytime Canasta

Afternoon canasta will be back on schedule on the 4th Thursday of the month. See you on **January 22nd** at 11:30 am for lunch and canasta.

Canasta, lunch, dessert and a beverage is \$10 & 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@embargmail.com

Bridge

Monday, January 5th
Wednesday, January 7th
Monday, January 12th
Monday, January 19th
Wednesday January 21st

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

Lunch Out

Happy New Year Lunch Bunch! It's time to start the New Year off with our first luncheon on **Thursday, January 8.**

We will be going to **LongHorn SteakHouse on Rt. 70.** It is located next to the old Fuddruckers or by the side of Home Depot on 70. Please take a minute to check out their extensive lunch menu at: <http://www.longhornsteakhouse.com/menu-listing/lunch>

Please respond to Maureen Jones MFJ1947@GMAIL.COM **by noon on Wednesday January, 7th.** They have numerous salad choices for those of us who have made that resolution again!! You know which one.... Hope to see you there! **11:45 am** is time to be there...

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

Join us on **Tuesday, January 13 at 6:30 pm** or **Thursday, January 22 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. If you are interested in the Newcomers Bowling League, also contact Vince.

Rummikub

Rummikub will be held at the home of Josette Kippenhan on **January 13 at 6:30 pm**. Please let Josette know by January 9 if you will be able to attend so she can make the necessary arrangements. You can reach her at 328-4546 or email her at pizzzellelady@yahoo.com. The host will provide a dessert; we ask that you bring a "finger food" with you (nuts, pizza rolls, etc.) to munch on while we are playing.

Book Club

The next meeting of our book club will be on **Wednesday, Jan. 28th** at 1:30 at the Women's Resource Center. The book selection is ***The Orphan Train*** by Christina Baker Kline. This book tells the story, based on fact, of orphan trains that took over 200,000 children from the East Coast to the Midwest between 1854 - 1929 for "adoption." Sue Asp will be our discussion leader. For information on book club, contact Sue Asp twoasps@gmail.com or Betty Schwartz bettysch69@gmail.com.

Mexican Train Dominoes

Tuesday, January 6 at 6:00pm

Please bring a snack to share and your favorite beverage, as well as \$2.00 for the Kitty. Please RSVP to Shari by the day before. Sharikidd@hotmail.com

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

Busy Hands

The Busy Hands group will meet on the **January 16** 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

**December General
Meeting at
Harper House**

