



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

**March 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:**

**\$800 donations**

Newcomers, once a year our organization makes a significant contribution to nonprofits in the four counties we serve – Catawba, Alexander, Burke and Caldwell. This year, the Newcomers' board of directors voted to give \$200 each to libraries in those counties.

Instead of the money going into the libraries' general fund, the money has been sent to Friends of the Library in each county. These volunteers from the community typically give their time and talents to supplement programs and operations of public libraries, from used book sales to special readings for children.

This \$800 contribution is in addition to the quarterly charities that Newcomers supports with the money and supplies you bring to our monthly meetings and card games, as well our monthly 50-50 drawing. Those donations go to the areas where most of our members live – Hickory, Newton-Conover, Alexander and Caldwell counties. Last quarter, our charity was the Good Samaritan Food Pantry in Bethlehem. Currently, it is The Corner Table, which feeds the hungry in Newton. Thanks for your generous contributions.

Dianne Straley  
President

## 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**

### March

3- Chuck Bethany  
4 – Fred Abernethy  
6 – Helen Reed  
7 – Harriet Bates  
10 – Corwin Kippenhan  
11 – Shirley Strickland  
11 - Judy Fahrenholz  
12 – Monty Matthews  
13 – Doris Wallace  
19 – Cathy Knobloch  
22 - Larry Parker  
30 - Greg Conrad

### April

2 – Karen Skulina  
8- Mike Flo  
10 – Margie Dickey  
10 – Don Baldwin  
15 – Bob Jones  
15 – Collette Wronek  
15- Margaret Clayton  
16 – Marianne Merrill  
17 – Dianne Straley  
18 – Joe Durand  
27 – Susan Perkins  
27 - Naomi East  
30 – Bert Perkins  
30- Susan Turner

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.

Welcome to our newest members **Bryan & Linda Swann** and **Terry & Lisa Eskind**.

### 2015-2016 Dues

The Newcomers fiscal year ends March 31st.

Payment of dues for next year (April '15 – March '16) should be received by March 31st. The annual dues are being increased to \$30 per year. However, if you get your payment in prior to April 1<sup>st</sup>, there is a \$5 discount so you only pay \$25.

You can give your check to any Board member, or you can mail it to the Newcomers address:

**Newcomers of Catawba Valley  
2425 North Center Street #169  
Hickory, NC 28601**

Please **do not put Box #169** in the address, or it will not be delivered to Newcomers. Thanks, Vince LeGrand, Treasurer

## **General Meeting/Welcome Coffee**

**10:30 am, Wednesday, March 11 at the Hickory Airport**

Come at 10:30 for coffee and snacks and then the meeting will start at 10:45. Please don't miss this meeting because we will be voting for officers for the upcoming fiscal year. This meeting will also give you an opportunity to voice your opinion on new or favorite activities you'd like to see in the coming year.

## **Night Games**

We will have two game nights this month with a few changes. **Game Night 1** (the old canasta plus) will be held at **6 p.m. on the second Wednesday, March 11** at the Hickory Regional Airport and **Game Night 2** will meet at **6 p.m. on the third Wednesday, March 18 at the same location**. Participants can play any games of their choosing either evening.

Crosswinds Cafe will continue to cater a \$7 dinner each evening. Watch your email for announcements from Shari and Donna for fun in March. Questions? Contact Shari Kidd at [Sharikidd@hotmail.com](mailto:Sharikidd@hotmail.com)

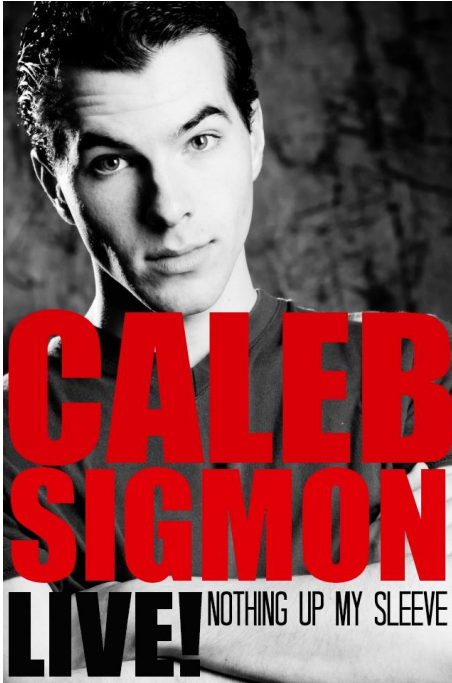
## **Quarterly Charity**

March will be the last month for donations to the **Corner Table** in Newton. Lunch is served there 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

## **Rummikub**

Rummikub is usually held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month in the evening at members' homes. Contact Michele LeGrand at [exermom@gmail.com](mailto:exermom@gmail.com) for more information about Rummikub.



### **Newcomers Magical Evening**

Instead of having a Gala this year, Newcomers will have a **Magical Evening** on **Friday, March 13** at 6:00 pm. The evening will consist of a dinner at the Crowne Plaza in Hickory followed by an interactive magic show presented by **Caleb Sigmon**. Cost is \$20 for Newcomers and \$25 for guests. Please make checks payable to **Newcomers of Catawba Valley** and mail them to **Michele LeGrand**, 1404 Redmon Ct, Newton, NC 28658. All checks must be received by **March 4**.

The meal will be a buffet dinner with a salad bar, a choice of entrée of carved sirloin of beef au jus or grilled salmon, wild rice, glazed carrots, a sautéed vegetable medley, sautéed snow peas with water chestnuts & mushrooms, and a dessert bar. A cash bar will be open throughout the evening. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me. Hope to see you there. Michele LeGrand [exermom@gmail.com](mailto:exermom@gmail.com)

### **Website**

A debt of gratitude goes to **Gary Schwartz** for his many years of hard work and dedication to Newcomers for establishing and maintaining our website! Other activities have made it impossible for Gary to continue as our webmaster, so he has turned the reins over to the team of Adra Kryszczuk, Michele LeGrand and Kathy Rozea. Adra will handle the manipulation of the website, Michele will deal with membership information and Kathy will see to photography details. If you have any questions regarding any aspects of the website, please don't hesitate to contact any one of us:

Adra – [adraellen@yahoo.com](mailto:adraellen@yahoo.com)

Michele – [exermom@gmail.com](mailto:exermom@gmail.com)

Kathy – [krr510@yahoo.com](mailto:krr510@yahoo.com)

### **Coffee and Conversation**

Watch for information about the next gathering which is usually held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday afternoon of the month. For more information, contact Sheri Binning at [ronald.binning@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.binning@gmail.com) .

### **Mah Jongg**

MahJongg meets each Friday morning at 10:30 am at Pinecrest Retirement Living on 29<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE. If you are interested in learning MahJongg, please contact JoAnn at 256-3495 or [joannwomack@embarqmail.com](mailto:joannwomack@embarqmail.com).

### **Daytime Canasta**

Afternoon lunch and canasta will be held on **March 26** at 11:30 am. 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.

For March canasta and lunch, **there will not be a learning table**. The current co-chairs: Carole Reising, Carol Parker, and Betty Schwartz plan to join in with everyone and play. This will be their last month as co-chairs before Margaret Clayton, Martha Conrad, Joyce Dennis, and Sue Reese take charge. Thank you all for your participation. We plan to have lots of prizes in March and hope you can come for lunch and canasta on the 26th.

To join in on the fun, contact Carole Reising at [creising@embarqmail.com](mailto:creising@embarqmail.com)

### **Bridge**

**Monday, March 2nd**

**Wednesday, March 4th**

**Monday, March 9th**

**Monday, March 16th**

**Wednesday, March 18th**

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



### **Mexican Train Dominoes**

**Tuesday, March 3 at 6:00pm**

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](mailto:Sharikidd@hotmail.com)

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

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

Join us on **Tuesday, March 10 at 6:30 pm** or **Thursday, March 26 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.

### Lunch Out

Top of the Mornin' to you, Lunch Bunch!!!

We'll be meeting a week later this month so we can celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

Come celebrate with us at **McCroskey's Pub & Grill** on 29th Ave and 16<sup>th</sup> Street, next to Lowe's grocery store in the strip plaza.

It doesn't matter whether you are of Irish ancestry or just Irish for the day. Directions from 127N by Rite Aid Drug store: turn right (east) at intersection onto 29th Ave. You will drive by Hickory Tavern on your left, then through residential areas, and past Pinecrest Living Facility, all on your left. Lowe's plaza is also on your left (north side of the street) after a church.

Please join us for lunch at **11:45 a.m. on Thursday 3/12.** Check out their menu: <http://mccroskeyspub.com/> (be advised: menu is under construction). Please RSVP to [mfj1947@gmail.com](mailto:mfj1947@gmail.com) by **Wednesday 3/11 NOON**

### Busy Hands

BUSY HANDS meets the **first** and **third Fridays** of each month, from **1:00 to 3:00 pm** at Habitat for Humanity, located on LR Blvd and Rt. 70. Come and knit, crochet, embroider, or do any type of hand work you do. If you wish to learn how to do these types of handwork, someone will teach you. If you have questions, please call Collette Wronek at 704-50-1767.

### Book Club

Books we'll be discussing this year are:

**March 25: A Paris Apartment: A Novel** by Michelle Gable

**May 27: Sycamore Row** by John Grisham

**July 22: Angry Housewives Eating Bon Bons** by Lorna Landvik

**Sept. 23: The Invention of Wings** by Sue Monk Kidd

**Nov. 18: The Girl With The Pearl Earring** by Tracy Chevalier

Hope to see you at the Women's Resource Center at 1:30 pm on March 25<sup>th</sup>!

For information on book club, contact Sue Asp [twoasps@gmail.com](mailto:twoasps@gmail.com) or Betty Schwartz [bettysch69@gmail.com](mailto:bettysch69@gmail.com).

## **Elections This Month**

### *Newcomers Board and Committee Chairs - 2015/2016*

#### **Officers**

President  
Vice President/Membership  
Treasurer  
Secretary

#### **2015 nominee**

Dianne Straley  
Joe Paussa  
Vince LeGrand  
Barb Beck

#### **Directors:**

Past President  
Publicity  
Programs  
Activities  
Ad-Hoc

Bob Wolgemuth  
John Bates  
Pam Wagoner  
Larry Laufer  
Bob Jones

#### **Chairpersons to be appointed by President:**

Book Club	Sue Asp & Betty Schwartz
Bowling	Vince LeGrand
Bridge	Gloria Berg
Busy Hands	Collette Wronek
Canasta	Margaret Clayton, Martha Conrad, Joyce Dennis, Sue Reese
Charity	John & Harriet Bates and Beverly Forrest
Coffee & Conversation	Sheri Binning
Evening Canasta	Shari Kidd
Evening Socials	Louise Judd
Game Night	Shari Kidd
Items of Interest	Bob Jones
Historian	Kathy Rozea
Hospitality	Michele LeGrand & Carol Sawicki
Lunch Out	Maureen & Bob Jones
MahJongg	Miki Valkanoff
Members Helping Members	Betty Schwartz, Kay Norusis
Mexican Train	Shari Kidd
Rummikub	Michele LeGrand
Shooting Practice	Vince LeGrand
Special Events	Shari Kidd
Website Master	Adra Kryszczuk, Michele LeGrand, Kathy Rozea

### **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).