



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

December 2015

Officers

**President –
Dianne Straley**

**Vice President-
Joe Paussa**

**Treasurer –
Vince LeGrand**

**Secretary –
Barb Beck**

Directors

**Past President-
Bob Wolgemuth**

**Publicity –
John Bates**

**Programs –Pam
Wagoner**

**Activities
Coordinator-
Adra Kryszczuk**

**Ad-Hoc –
Bob Jones**

Chairpersons

**Book Club – Sue
Asp, Betty Schwartz**

**Bowling –
Vince LeGrand**

**Bridge –
Gloria Berg**

**Canasta – Margaret
Clayton, Martha
Conrad, Joyce
Dennis**

President's Column

An important bit of news: Newcomers of Catawba Valley is a nonprofit corporation in North Carolina, effective Nov. 23.

The board voted unanimously to take this legal step in order to protect club members, officers and directors from financial damages if there were to be a successful lawsuit against the club. No one expects our club will be sued, but we live in a litigious world. Here is what happened.

Longtime club members tell me the issue of liability has come up several times in the past, but no one could come up with a solution. When Larry Laufer joined the board last spring, he nudged us to study this very important issue again. Since the board's personal homes and investments were at risk, we took the matter very seriously.

We looked at insurance and found the annual premiums would be too costly – if we could find a firm to insure us. Club vice president Joe Paussa wouldn't let the matter drop and researched the idea of incorporating as a way to limit our liability. Club treasurer Vince LeGrand located a Hickory lawyer knowledgeable in the field.

Three of us – Joe, Vince and I - met with attorney Jordan Faulkner of Young, Morphis, Bach this fall on incorporating as a nonprofit. The attorney dropped a bombshell at that meeting. Not only were board members at personal financial risk in case of a successful lawsuit against the club, so was every member of Newcomers. That is a risk we refuse to take.

So we authorized the attorney to file the necessary paperwork with the state, and we are now officially incorporated. If there is a successful judgment against Newcomers, the financial damages would be limited to the club bank account, less than \$4,000. If you have any questions about this, please talk with me, Joe or Vince. But I know we are all sleeping more soundly knowing liability is off our shoulders – and yours.

Dianne Straley
President
dfwhit@gmail.com
308-4282

Happy Birthday to Our Members

**Charity Coordinators –
John & Harriet
Bates, Bev Forrest**

**Coffee &
Conversation –
Sheri Binning**

Evening Socials

**Game Nights– Shari
Kidd**

**Items of Interest–
Bob Jones**

**Historian –
Kathy Rozea**

**Hospitality –
Michele LeGrand,
Carol Sawicki**

**Lunch Out –
Maureen Jones**

**Mah Jongg- Dianne
Straley**

**Members Helping
Members –Betty
Schwartz, Kay
Norusis**

**Men's Activities –
Vince LeGrand**

**Mexican Train –
Shari Kidd**

**Special Events –
Shari Kidd**

**Rummikub-Michele
LeGrand**

**Busy Hands-
Collette Wronek**

**Webmaster –
Adra Kryszczuk,
Michele LeGrand**

December	January
5- Michael Kane 9 – Betty Ann Williams 10 – Carol Parker 10 – Sharon Bennett 15 - Albert Derocher 15 - Pam Wagoner 17 – Nancy Davis 17 – Millie Kaufman 21 – Kathy Durand 21 – Joe Pausa 21 – Carol Rozea 23 – Barbara Jackson 29 – Joyce Dennis 29 – Ginny Koch 31 – Karen Schafer	1 – Floyd Clark 1- Lee Wagoner 3 - Mary Martorano 4 – Patricia Lang 7 – Hedy Pausa 7 – Eric Koch 10 – Miki Valkanoff 16 – Kevin McCutcheon 18 – Sandra Thompson 21 – Barb Beck 22 - Gene Clayton 23 – Sue Bumgarner 23 – Betty Stone 24 – Gary Schwartz 25 - Dan Ferry 27 – Sue Asp 28 – Bob Connor 28- Sig Holcomb 29 - Ricki Hall 30 – Mary Ellen Glover 30 – Edie Ashman 30 - Carolyn Eanes

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.

Support Toys for Tots

It's sad to report that our Charity of the Quarter **Toys for Tots** hasn't received too many donations yet. We've had two meetings away from the Airport and while we had a collection box at one meeting, donations have been slow. Due to Thanksgiving & Christmas holidays, Canasta which is normally a large supporter of our charities has been either cancelled or re-scheduled. Folks, this is an awesome charity for children who wouldn't otherwise receive toys at Christmas. Please open your wallets and pick up some toys for the children in our Unifour area or write a check to: "MCL DET 1163 –Toys for Tots" — and please, do it soon! There will be someone at all activities to collect your donations.



General Meeting/Welcome Coffee

10:30 am, Wednesday, December 9 at the Hickory Airport

Come for coffee and chat with your friends before the meeting. Then we will hear from **Cheryl Abee**, director of the **Volunteer Center/Information & Referral of Catawba County United Way**. She will talk to us about the **211 Program** which helps seniors get in touch with different resources in the county. Hope you can join us to learn about the various resources to help all of us as we age "gracefully". See you then!!

Holiday Social Event

Sunday, Dec 13, 6:00 p.m., please join us to celebrate the season together at **Market on Main** in their upstairs Bistro. Dinner will be salad, beef, ham, vegetable medley, rice pilaf, roasted red bliss potatoes, rolls, coffee and tea. Desserts will be an assortment of mini cheesecakes and petit fours. The majority of the cost is being paid by the club, so you will only pay \$15.00 per couple or \$7.50 per person.

Please send checks (payable to Newcomers of Catawba Valley) to Adra Kryszczuk, 609 41st Av. Ct. NW, Hickory, 28601, no later than December 9, 2015. Contact Adra with questions at: adraellen@yahoo.com.

Lunch Out

Hello Lunch Bunch! I asked the people attending the November lunch out where they wanted to go for next for lunch and if we should have a luncheon in December. The response was a definite "yes" for December, so we are going to **Salsa Azteca on 16th St NE**. You can order from the menu or get the huge buffet I've heard great things about. The date will be **12/3/15 at 11:45 a.m.** There is no menu to view online but when I called I was told the buffet has quite a variety of your typical Mexican entrees all for the low price of \$6.99. Drinks are \$1.99 each.

Salsa Azteca is located at 1265 16th ST NE. It is located in the same plaza as Captain's Galley across from Wendy's. **RSVP to Maureen at mfj1947@gmail.com by December 2 at noon.** They do have regular American cuisine on the menu. i.e. burgers, etc.

Coffee and Conversation

We're going back to **Highland Coffee** in downtown Lenoir on the **14th (a Monday) at 2 pm** for coffee, treats and Christmas tree gazing. All of the merchants there have a tree outside and many are decorated with handmade ornaments. They are all different and interesting to look at each one. There are several restaurants downtown if anyone wants lunch. For more information, contact Sheri Binning at ronald.binning@gmail.com.

Holiday Game Night

Wednesday December 9th at 6:00pm, Hickory Airport

Extra special dinner: We will be having cranberry orange glazed ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, sweet potato casserole, apple cranberry walnut salad, broccoli salad, apple sauce, rolls, and assorted desserts, ice tea and coffee. As always you can bring a drink of your choice. The cost is regularly \$13.00 but your cost will be \$10.00. Newcomers is paying \$3.00 toward each meal (if you sign up and don't show up, your cost is \$13.00.)

We are looking forward to seeing everyone; come and play the game of your choice. Canasta, dominoes, rummy cube, and mahjong are regularly played. Get your group together or just come on and try a new game. Please note on your RSVP the game you wish to play.

RSVP by December 6th at midnight

kidd915sl@gmail.com

Shari Kidd

828-328-4657

Mah Jongg

After trying out two other venues, our Mah Jongg players have agreed to continue playing at Pinecrest retirement center. We play there at **1:30 p.m. Tuesdays** and **10:30 a.m. Fridays**. We debated moving our games to another location because parking is difficult at Pinecrest and we felt our games were bothering some residents. (There's giggling and laughing involved in a good game.) But after trying out other locations, we decided to stay put.



We are urging our players to carpool to address the parking problem. And we have moved our game out of Pinecrest's TV room so we do not interfere with residents. I also volunteered to teach Pinecrest's residents how to play the game and had my first class for two residents on Monday.

Dianne Straley, Mah Jongg coordinator

Men's Activities (though not limited to men)

As you may or may not be aware, there is a group of Newcomers who head out to the gun range twice a month for target shooting. And, in keeping with Newcomers tradition, we generally go for a bite to eat after we shoot. If you are a shooter or are interested in learning to shoot, we would love to have you join us. We shoot at the **Springs Road Gun Club** on Springs Road in Hickory. Their website is www.springsroadgunclub.com They offer gun rentals and a wide variety of training classes.

We currently shoot at **6:30 PM on the second Tuesday** of each month and at **noon on the fourth Thursday** of each month. If you are interested in shooting, but those times are not convenient for you, please let me know. We are currently looking at possibly changing our shooting schedule. Check the Newcomers calendar for any changes in our schedule during November and December due to the holidays.

If you have family members who might be interested in shooting, please forward this email to them. 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.

Bridge

Monday, December 7
Holiday party Wednesday, December 16

New members: please contact Gloria Berg (glomcberg@hotmail.com) for details about bridge or how to be put on the substitute list.



Busy Hands

Busy Hands will meet the **first and third Fridays** of December, **Dec. 4th and 18th**. The meetings are from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the Sr. Center NW from 1:00 to 3:00. There is lots of parking. All are invited to come and bring handwork such as knitting, embroidery, crocheting, etc., or just come and visit for a while. Coffee is free. If you would like to learn any of these crafts, there will be someone to help you. If you have questions, please call Collette Wronek at 704-530-1767.

Daytime Canasta

Just a reminder that the November and December daytime canasta will be held on the **second Thursday, December 10**. Watch for an email to sign up. Canasta, lunch, dessert and a beverage is \$10 & canasta with a dessert and a beverage is \$5. Don't know how to play. There is always a learning table if people indicate they need to brush up or learn the game. The regular schedule of the 4th Thursday will resume in January. If you have any questions, please contact **Martha Conrad** at marthaconrad@charter.net.

Rummikub

Rummikub is usually held on the **2nd Tuesday** of the month in the evening at members' homes. Contact Michele LeGrand at exermom@gmail.com for more information about Rummikub.





Mexican Train Dominoes

Last Dominoes of the year!!

Tuesday, December 1 at 6:00pm

Place: Shari Kidd's home, 5495 Gunpowder Drive, Hickory

Bring a snack to share and your favorite beverage, as well as \$2.00 for the Kitty. **RSVP to Shari at kidd915sl@gmail.com by noon on Dec. 1** 828-328-4657

Book Club

The book club will have a **salad luncheon potluck** at the home of **Kay Norusis** on Wednesday, **December 16 at noon**. Please let Kay know if you're able to come and what salad you'll be bringing. For information on book club, contact Sue Asp twoasps@gmail.com or Betty Schwartz bettyesch69@gmail.com.

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 might need help due to illness, surgery, hospitalization, death, etc. Types of assistance could 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. The committee currently includes Kay Norusis and Betty Schwartz. For more information, contact Betty at bettyesch60@gmail.com.

'50s and '60s dance

More than 40 Baby Boomers enjoyed music from their youth at a Newcomers party and dance at Market on Main on Nov. 14. It was an evening of poodle skirts, greased-back hair and rolled up jeans. Many thanks to club member Greg Conrad for providing the entertainment – singing, piano playing, DJ-ing, plus a bit of trivia and karaoke thrown in. Vince and Michele LeGrand provided stage lighting and décor. -Dianne Straley



Randell Jones talks about Daniel Boone at the Old Courthouse in Newton



**Phil Swan**

Club member Phil Swann died in early November at Catawba Valley Medical Center due to complications of cancer. Phil was a delight to know, especially around the card table. He was well practiced in Mexican Train, shooting and Trivial Pursuit, as well as target shooting. He was the father of club member Bryan Swann. Phil had recently moved into the Newton home of Bryan and his wife Linda. Phil's sisters, Donna Wilson and Shari Kidd, are longtime members of Newcomers.

Welcome to our newest members:

- Millie Kaufman
- Janet & Rob Herman
- Linda & Marc Fedder