



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

January 2016

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

If saving money is a favorite pastime, then here is an idea for you. You can save \$5 to renew your membership to Newcomers of Catawba Valley if you give us that check by March 31.

Annual membership is \$30 per household (NOT per person), starting April 1. But if you turn in your renewal check before then, the cost drops to \$25. That's a 16 percent savings. The board of directors approved the \$5 discount last month – the same discount and annual fee that we charged a year ago.

Here's what to do:

1. Make out a check for \$25 to Newcomers of Catawba Valley.
2. Mail it to Newcomers of Catawba Valley 2425 N. Center St., # 169 Hickory, NC 28601
3. We must receive the check by March 31 or you will be charged the full \$30 renewal price.
4. You can save a stamp by giving your check to these board members: Dianne Straley, Joe Paussa, Barb Beck, Vince LeGrand, Bob Wolgemuth, Bob Jones, Adra Kryszczuk, John Bates or Pam Wagoner. The club's budget year runs April 1 to March 31.

That \$25 allows you to play bridge, canasta, dominoes and mah jongg. Or you may choose our book club, target practice or bowling. Or hear our monthly speaker, join friends for lunch or coffee, signup for parties and socials.

You'll pay fees for meals and most activities, but Newcomers makes the arrangements and organizes the fun. Personally, I think that \$25 is the best bargain in town.

Dianne Straley, president
dfwhit@gmail.com

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 –
Chuck Bethany**

**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**

January	February
1 – Floyd Clark 1- Lee Wagoner 3 - Mary Martorano 4 – Patricia Lang 7 – Hedy Paussa 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	1 – Barb Laufer 6 – Mike Rozea 8 – Gene Rozea 11 – Larry Laufer 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.

Quarterly Charity

Our Newcomers' Charity for January, February and March 2016 is the **Humane Society of Catawba County**. According to executive director Jane Bowers, their current and ongoing needs are: dog and cat food- Purina One - dog , puppy, cat, kitten any flavors; cat litter, cheap, clay type; laundry detergent; trash bags 13 gallon and contractor size; bleach ; copy paper; and paper towels.

Since Jane is a former member (and past president) of NCV, we really need to come through this quarter. There is a rumor that she might show up at a general meeting with some squirmly puppies. Bev Forest and John Bates will be collecting donated items and checks and cash at NCV functions we attend. If anyone would like to do that at activities they do not attend, let Bev or John know so that they can arrange transfer and delivery to the shelter.

General Meeting/Welcome Coffee

10:30 am, Wednesday, January 13 at the Hickory Airport

Club member Eric Koch will talk about the **Guardian Ad Litem** program that allows volunteers to serve as "the voice of the child" in court. Hear Eric and District 25 Administrator Sydney Smith speak at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, at Hickory Regional Airport at our monthly meeting. Eric and his wife Ginny moved to Granite Falls from Chicago, and joined Newcomers in 2015. Eric has been a volunteer in the Guardian Ad Litem program for 1 1/2 years. In Illinois, as is the case in many states, GAL's are required to be licensed attorneys. North Carolina has no such requirement, and after being a commercial pilot for 40 years, Eric says that it is a refreshing, worthwhile experience. Come for coffee and treats with you friends and then hear from Eric Koch.

Lunch Out

January 7, 2016 - Newcomers Monthly Lunch Out will be at O'Charley's of Hickory (<http://www.ocharleys.com>). We will be meeting at **12:00 noon** at 2360 US Hwy 70 SE (across from SAM'S Club). Please **RSVP by noon on January 5** to **Chuck Bethany** at bethanycw@charter.net. Hope to see you there.

Coffee and Conversation

We will meet at **Cafe Gouda** in Hickory on **Friday the 29th at 2 pm**. For more information, contact Sheri Binning at ronald.binning@gmail.com.

Game Nights

Wednesday, January 13 & Thursday, January 21 at 6:00pm, Hickory Airport

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at one or both of the game nights this month, so come eat dinner 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 to Shari Kidd at kidd915sl@gmail.com or 828-328-4657

Daytime Canasta

Afternoon lunch and canasta will be held on **Thursday, January 28 at 11:30 am**. 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. Plan to come for lunch and canasta in January. All Newcomer members, men and women, are welcome. To join in the fun, contact **Martha Conrad** at marthaconrad@charter.net.

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)**

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 (January 12)** of each month and at **noon on the fourth Thursday (January 28)** 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 a possible change in our shooting schedule.

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.

Busy Hands

BUSY HANDS will resume meeting from **1:00 to 3:00pm on January 15**, at **Westmont Senior Center**, 1316 Main Ave Dr., Hickory. All are welcome to join the group to do hand work, or just sit and visit. We meet every first and third Friday of the month unless there is a holiday. If you have questions, please call Collette Wronek at 704-530-1767.

Bridge

Monday, January 4
Wednesday, January 6
Monday, January 11
Monday, January 18
Wednesday, January 20



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

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



January 5 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 or 828-328-4657 by noon on January 5.

Book Club

Attention all "new" Newcomers!! If you enjoy an occasional good book and haven't investigated us yet, now is a good opportunity as we are starting a new cycle of good reads for 2016. We only meet every other month which gives you plenty of time to read each selection. Our discussions are lively but good natured, and we all agree that we learn a lot from other's perspectives. We meet at the **Woman's Resource Center in Hickory** on the 4th Wednesday every other month starting with our **January** meeting on the **27th at 1:30 pm**. For the complete list of selections and the meeting dates, check out the Book Club section under Activities on the Newcomers Website. http://newcomersofcv.com/book_club.html

January's selection is "**Big Little Lies**" by Liane Moriarty. The book follows three women, each at a crossroads. It is a brilliant take on ex-husbands, second wives, mother and daughters, schoolyard scandals, and the dangerous little lies we tell ourselves just to survive.

For more information on our book club, contact Sue Asp sueasp@charter.net or Betty Schwartz betty69@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 betty60@gmail.com.