



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

December 2016

Officers

President –
Carol Hoover

Vice President –
Joe Pausa

Treasurer –
Vince LeGrand

Secretary –
Susan Reese

Past President-
Dianne Straley

Directors
John Bates
Adra Kryszczuk
Bob Jones
Shari Kidd

Chairpersons

Book Club –
Sue Asp,
Betty Schwartz

Bowling –
Vince LeGrand

Bridge –
Gloria Berg

Canasta –
Margaret Clayton,
Martha Conrad,
Joyce Dennis

Rummikub –
Michelle LeGrand

Charity Coordinator-
Joe Pausa

Coffee &
Conversation
Sheri Binning

Hello Newcomers,

The holiday season is upon us. You may remember special celebrations with family and friends where everything was perfect. However, I would imagine that some of your most memorable memories are the ones where crazy things happened: the dog ate the ham, the tree fell over and your in-law opened the gift of underwear that had been intended for someone else. These are the memories we laugh about for years.

For many of us our holiday celebrations change over the years, our children or friends may be far away and things are not the way they use to be. So let's not fret, expect everything to be perfect or fit a preconceived image. I hope you simply enjoy the decorations, the lights, some music and events offered by our club and throughout our community.

If you have no plans on Christmas our club members will once again offer seats at our tables to share a meal and our hospitality. If you have room at your table to offer or would like to spend your day with one of us, please let me know. Sharing is a joy of this season.

The holidays are also a time of giving back and caring for others. Please consider our Toys for Tots charity this month and bring an unwrapped toy to any of our Newcomers events. Giving to the less fortunate for the pure goodness of giving is one way to make the holiday season special.

Whatever you will be doing this year, whether old-fashioned or modern, filled with activities or quiet times to relax, *I wish you peace and joy.*

Carol Hoover,
President
Newcomers of Catawba Valley



Evening Socials
Shari Kidd

Game Nights–
Shari Kidd

Items of Interest–
Bob Jones

Hospitality –
Michele LeGrand, Carol
Sawicki

Lunch Out –
Chuck Bethany

Mah Jongg–
Dianne Straley

Members Helping Members
–
Betty Schwartz,
Kay Norusis

Shooting and Bowling–
Vince LeGrand

Dominoes –
Bob Jones

Special Events –
Shari Kidd

Rummikub–
Michele LeGrand

Web Team –
Brian Hoover,
Adra Kryszczuk,
Michele LeGrand

Happy Birthday to Our Members

December		January	
Rosie Bray	12/02	Floyd Clark	01/01
Michael Kane	12/05	John Murgu	01/01
Betty Ann Williams	12/09	Lee Wagoner	01/01
Carol Parker	12/10	Patricia Lang	01/04
Chris Beckom	12/12	Eric Koch	01/07
Sharon Bennett	12/15	Hedy Paussa	01/07
Albert Derocher	12/15	Dennis Valkanoff	01/10
Pam Wagoner	12/15	Kevin McCutcheon	01/16
Millie Kaufman	12/17	Sandra Thompson	01/18
Kathy Durand	12/21	Sue Asp	01/21
Joe Paussa	12/21	Barbara Beck	01/21
Jeff Stewart	12/24	Gene Clayton	01/22
Denise Bukovan	12/29	Sue Bumgarner	01/23
Joyce Dennis	12/29	Betty Stone	01/23
Ginny Koch	12/29	Bob Connor	01/28
Karen Schafer	12/31	Ricki Hall	01/29
		Ginny Heinrich	01/29
		Steve Womack	01/29
		Edie Ashman	01/30
		Carolyn Eanes	01/30
		Mary Ellen Glover	01/30

Please email Susan Reese at sereese62@gmail.com if your birthday is not listed or if you would prefer that your birthday not be listed

General Meeting and Program

December meeting

You're invite to learn about the good works of the **Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry** at our Dec.14 monthly meeting, to be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Hickory airport. Volunteer coordinator Linda Gensheimer will tell us about the nonprofit organization, which helps indigent residents. Visit the organization's website at www.ccmhickory.com.

Please bring new, unwrapped toys to the meeting to contribute to our fourth quarter charity, Toys for Tots.

The meeting starts at 10:30 a.m. at Hickory Regional Airport, 3101 9th Ave. Dr. NW.

The next Board Meeting is Dec 14 at 12:30pm
at Crosswind Café

Calling all Artists



Competition for new Newcomers of Catawba Valley logo

The NCV Board would like to invite members to participate in a contest for a new mast head/banner or logo to be used for business cards, stationery and our web site. For banners please submit a digital file minimum size 1,200 by 1,200 pixels. For logos please submit a digital file minimum size 256 x 256 pixels. If you need help creating a digital file please contact President Carol Hoover. The person who designs the winning graphic will be awarded a years' membership and authorship for the design. Submissions may be given to any board member and need to be received by no later than Friday January 20th. We hope you will consider submitting your ideas. Thank you.

Sharing what you know

About 20 of you learned how to tie fancy bows and create lighted decorative balls from chicken wire at a club workshop in November. The do-it-yourself class was taught by Carol Hoover and Dianne Straley. After the cost of materials was paid, the two workshops had \$57 left over, which went to our Toys For Tots charity.

Would **YOU** like to teach a workshop? So many club members have wonderful skills you can share. Maybe you could lead a class/walk in bird identification. Maybe you can get us started on researching our family history with a genealogy workshop. Maybe we can come to your kitchen and learn how to make sushi. You have lots of skills. Let's share them.

Contact Dianne Straley, dfwhit@gmail.com, if you have an idea for sharing your talents.

Upcoming Events



CHRISTMAS VILLAGE— CHARLOTTE

NEW EVENT: We are planning a Newcomers' trip to the CHARLOTTE CHRISTMAS VILLAGE on **Thursday, December 15.**

This is a new holiday event in Charlotte. See www.CLTchristmasvillage.com

We will gather at 10:00 AM on Dec. 15 in the Roses parking lot in Mountain View, just off U.S. 321 at the U.S. 70 interchange.

We may have our own host/guide and special events scheduled in expectation of our arrival

about 11:15. Admission is free but lunch will be available for purchase. Dianne Straley and Betty Stone will each drive; additional drivers may be needed.

RSVP to bstone1066@aol.com by Dec. 8 if you would like to participate.

Betty W. Stone



"Big Chill" DJ/Karaoke Party

You are invited to attend our mid-winter DJ/Karaoke dance party on **Saturday January 28th** with an inclement weather date of Saturday February 4th. We will meet at Oliver's Landing Golf Course in Bethlehem at the Old Still Restaurant. They will be setting up a buffet for us to include appetizers, salad, four different entrees, dessert and beverage for the all-inclusive price of \$20.00 per person. (Includes tax and tip). We will begin at 6 o'clock to socialize (cash bar). Dinner will begin at 6:30 pm and music at 7:30 pm. Greg Conrad will be your DJ/Karaoke King while singing and playing the hits. It will be lots of fun. Make plans to come and listen or shake your bootie. Please make payment by no later than **Thursday January 5th**. Payments may be given to Greg or Martha Conrad, or mailed to our post office box at 2425 N. Center Street Box #169. Hickory NC 28601. Hope to see you there!

Sponsor Spotlight



Here's another in our continuing series of articles highlighting the sponsors who support the Newcomers of Catawba Valley. Again, a reminder to our members to please look to the sponsor page when you need a service. Sponsors are the first listing under the Resource tab.

The Catawba County Chamber of Commerce was voted 2016 Chamber of the Year by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives. Their website is chock-a-block full of information! Anyone new to our area will be astounded by the amazing range of activities and ideas available to members and residents. I certainly was. Check it out!

When you click on any sponsor's ad, you will automatically be taken to that sponsor's web page. I also want to remind you that if you use one of our sponsors, please make sure to thank them for sponsoring the Newcomers of Catawba Valley!

Adra for the Web Team



Quarterly Charity

October through December

U.S. Marine Corps - Toys for Tots is a funding and support organization for the U.S. Marine Corps since 1991.

The mission of the U.S. Marine Reserve Toys for Tots program is to collect new unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to the needy children in the community

During this quarter, unwrapped toys may be brought to any Newcomers function and they will be greatly appreciated.

Joseph M Paussa
Charity Chairman

Ride Sharing



meet members who may live nearby!

As a group, Newcomers of Catawba County wants to encourage members who may be unable to attend any of our functions due to lack of ride or nighttime driving issues to be sure and notify the event coordinator or another club member for assistance. We have members throughout the area and we are always happy to be sure everyone is able to attend our activities. It is also a great way to

Single Members

Did you know that Newcomers of Catawba Valley has 40 members who are single? Single members are ***always*** welcome at ***any*** of our events! If you feel you'd like to



have someone accompany you, please contact the event coordinator or a board member and we'll endeavor to connect you with others who'll be going. Please let us know how we can help you enjoy the events of your club.



Game Nights

Thursday, December 8th, and 14th, 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. If we have enough interest, we may have one on Dec 28th.

Hickory Regional Airport, 3101 9th Avenue Drive Northwest, Hickory, NC 28601, United States

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 R.S.V.P. the game you wish to play. Play includes a catered dinner. We must pay the caterer for each meal ordered, so if you make reservations and do not cancel before the indicated deadline you still must pay the charge! R.S.V.P. to Shari Kidd at kidd915sl@gmail.com.



Lunch Out

Hi Folks,

It's time for the Newcomers Monthly Lunch Out

Chuck Bethany is the usual organizer for Lunch Out, but he and Kathy are away so they asked me to help with the December 1, 2016 event.

I've chosen the El Paso Mexican Restaurant located at 1709 N. Center Street, Hickory. You probably know the street better as N.C. 127 in Viewmont.

This very popular restaurant is just north of Lowes Hardware and across the street from Cook-Out hamburgers.

El Paso has a web site and you can view the menu on-line. Go to "elpasomxrestaurant.com" then click on the Viewmont location. The menu may be hard to spot. It is on the upper left of the Viewmont page. The site also gives you info about Thursday's specials.

I've eaten there several times. Food's good, some of it very good. Try the soup: Sopa de Pollo or the wonderful Chile Verde. They give you a good-sized servings; pretty fast service; moderate prices...and last but not least... big ol' margaritas!

Try to arrive about 11:15. We asked that the waiter begin taking orders at 11:30 a.m., so take your cue from that. We will have our own room, with one long table that will seat roughly 24, and any overflow will be at side tables....of course, within the same room.

If you are going, email me by the end of the day on Tuesday, Nov. 29, or you can also show up for lunch without a reservation. **Fill-in Organizer, Paige Straley,** jpstraley@gmail.com.

See ya there!



NCV Holiday Bridge Party
Wednesday, December 14 2:00 p.m.
76 Divot Court, Hickory, NC
Hosted by Gloria Berg and Karen Schafer

2:00pm Bridge
5:00pm Cocktail
6:00pm Dinner
7:00pm Gift, Exchange

"Bring a Gift ~ Get a Gift "

Ham and chicken will be provided. You will be asked to bring an appetizer, starch (potatoes, mac and cheese, rice, etc.), salad/veggie, or dessert. **RSVP** to Gloria at 495-8561 by **Dec. 7th** to let her know that you will be coming, and to discuss which food item to bring.



Coffee and Conversation

We'll go to **Highland Coffee** in downtown Lenoir on **Tuesday the 13th at 2 pm.** Gotta do it early because of the holidays. If anyone wants lunch, I'll be next door at 1841 Cafe at 1 pm. Afterwards, we can walk around downtown and look at the Christmas trees. Each business has a tree in front and they are all different. This year's theme is **"It's a Wonderful Life!"**

Let Sheri Binning know if you can come or just show up, ronald.binning@gmail.com.

Dominoes



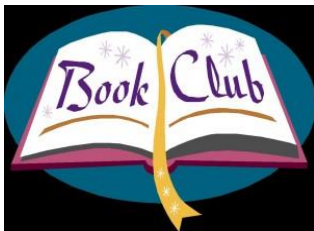
Just another mention of the new change to "DOMINOES". As many of you are aware, our club is growing by leaps & bounds. Shari Kidd has been the "Hostess with the mostest" for having it at her house, but the time has come that it's gotten too big. Therefore Shari has relinquished her hosting to my wife Maureen & myself, with Ed & Cherie Stewart assisting us.

We have made arrangements to move the games to the Hickory Airport, still on the first Tuesday of the month at 6 PM. The format has been changed from our previous "Pot Luck", to now having Crosswinds Cafe at the airport providing us with dinner, for \$7 per person. The same rules apply as for Game Nights: DEADLINE FOR MAKING RESERVATIONS WILL BE 6 PM ON SUNDAY NIGHT! ONCE YOU MAKE YOUR RESERVATION, YOU WILL BE OBLIGATED TO PAY FOR YOUR MEAL--WHETHER YOU ATTEND OR NOT!

When making your reservations, please express if you want to play regular Mexican Train Dominoes; otherwise it will be assumed you want to play Mexican Train "Chicken" Dominoes. The next "Dominoes" will be on December 6th at 6 PM. We will be playing "Chicken Foot". There will be a learning table for those of you who want to learn, or brush up on your skills. If enough members want, we will have regular Mexican Train Dominoes also.

If anyone has questions feel free to call us at 828-302-2385.

Bob



Book Club

The Newcomer's Book Club will have a **HOLIDAY** salad luncheon on **Wednesday, December 7th** at **NOON**. It will take place at the home of Sue Asp. We will watch a movie based upon a book read by the club after our meal. If you have attended at least one meeting this past year, please consider joining us for this potluck event. Contact Sue at twoasps@gmail.com to RSVP & get directions to her house, if needed.

The Newcomers Book Club meets every other month on the **4th Wednesday** of the month, at the Women's Resource Center at 1:30 p.m.

We invite anyone to come and discuss the book with us.

Daytime Canasta



We will have our Daytime Canasta on **December 8th for November and December**. Go ahead and put this on your calendar so you can remember to save the date! Afternoon lunch and canasta starts **at 11:30 a.m.** Canasta, lunch, dessert, and a beverage is \$10 & canasta with just 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. All

Newcomer members, men and women, are welcome. We like to start playing the game right at noon, so please be considerate of others and get to the airport on time. If an emergency arises, please **call Martha Conrad on her cell ASAP at 828-234-8955**. To join in the fun, contact **Martha at marthaconrad@charter.net** or call her at home for more information at **828-495-4599**.



Shooting and Bowling

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 p.m. on the second Tuesday (DEC 13th)** of each month and at **noon on the fourth Thursday (DEC 29th, due to Christmas)** of each month. Contact **Vince LeGrand** for information on shooting legravin@gmail.com or **828-466-8218**.

If you are interested in having fun and getting a little exercise, Newcomers bowling is the perfect activity for you. Newcomers' bowling starts its 6th season on September 29th.

This year we will bowl at Pin Station in Newton. It is on Business 321 (also known as Northwest Boulevard) and is directly across from the Catawba County Government Complex. For more information their website is: www.pinstationbowling.com We bowl 3 games each session and the cost is \$8.00.

We start bowling at 6:30 p.m. on every other Thursday...

Dec 8th & Dec 29th, 6:30pm

(There are some breaks around the holidays)

They open the lanes for practice at 6:20 p.m.

If you don't have your own bowling shoes and ball, rental shoes are available for a fee and balls are available for free.

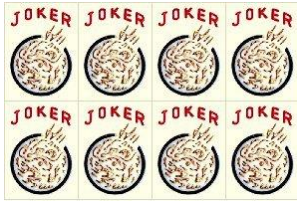
We don't have teams...every bowler is his/her own team.

The focus is on camaraderie and getting some exercise, not competition. We have bowlers of all skill levels.

For additional information about Newcomers Bowling, contact Vince.

Mah Jongg

Interested in Mah Jongg?



The Mah Jongg players traditionally go out for lunch after the Friday game. A recent outing took Martha Conrad, Dianne Straley, Naomi East and Virginia Charlton to J.D.'s Smokehouse in Connelly Springs.



Our club sponsors two American Mah Jongg games weekly at Pinecrest retirement center, 915 29th Ave. NE, Hickory. Games start at 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 10:30 a.m. Fridays, on the second floor.

Mah Jongg is a strategy game played with tiles. No need to learn Chinese to play this addictive game, which is easier than bridge and harder than canasta. Come look over our shoulders as we play to see if you want to sign up for lessons. Contact Dianne Straley for information: dfwhit@gmail.com

Rummikub

After a very hot summer, Rummikub is back. If you have any questions please contact Michele LeGrand at exermom@gmail.com for more information about Rummikub.



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 bettysch60@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members

- Elaine Applegate, from NJ
- Brenda and Scott Ireland, from San Jose, CA
- Dottie Demarest, from Augusta, GA
- Ricki Hall – Rejoining
- Therese Winslow, from Cherry Valley, NY

