



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

February 2017

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,
Karen Schafer

Canasta –
Margaret Clayton,
Martha Conrad,
Joyce Dennis

Rummikub –
Michelle LeGrand

Charity Coordinator–
Joe Pausa

Coffee &
Conversation
Sheri Binning

Hello Newcomers,

We have a lot of fun planned for you this month. We have a special event called a “**States Dinner**” to be held on **Friday evening February 24**. Everyone is requested to bring a dish from their home state to share and we will have games of bingo and poker that evening. We will also be hosting a poker run leading up to the event. All of the details are listed below in this newsletter.

Another new event this month will be a **Wine and Design Party**. I am so pleased that one of our newest members has organized this event for us. I continue to encourage any member to consider organizing an event. If there is something you want to do or someplace you want to go, chances are others will be interested also. It’s a great way to make new friends and get to know this wonderful area in which we live. It is fun and easy to organize an activity and a board member will help you every step of the way. We have over 60 volunteers currently managing different parts of our very large club. Please consider speaking to me about how you could help.

I hope you will be playing one of our games of Bridge, Mahjongg, Rummikub, Dominos or Canasta. We are always willing to teach these games. We have heard about new interests for Pinochle and Euchre so in response we have added these games to our games nights. I am delighted to learn that several new members are now shooting and bowling. That’s wonderful. Another fun way to meet new friends or visit with many current friends is by attending **Coffee and Conversation** or **Lunch Out**. The organizers of these activities do a great job selecting new places and popular favorites for us to enjoy.

As always, if you would like a ride to any event please let the organizers know. We have many members happy to help. Please be sure to RSVP by the deadline for any activity to allow the leaders to make adequate plans. I look forward to seeing you this month for some fun and friendship.

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 –
Maureen Jones

Special Events –
Shari Kidd

Rummikub–
Michele LeGrand

Web Team –
Brian Hoover,
Adra Kryszczuk,
Michele LeGrand

Happy Birthday to Our Members

February		March	
Christi Austin	02/01	Shirley Strickland	03/01
Larry Laufer	02/01	Chuck Bethany	03/03
Teena Stewart	02/02	Helen Reed	03/06
Kay Norusis	02/03	Harriet Bates	03/07
Mike Rozea	02/06	Peggy Meyer	03/07
Carol Rozea	02/08	Kip Kippenhan	03/10
Fred D. Parnell	02/09	Judy Fahrenholz	03/11
Barbara Laufer	02/11	Lori Gervasio	03/12
Denise Kapuscinski	02/12	Monty Matthews	03/12
Butch Dunlap	02/15	Larry Parker	03/12
Elaine Applegate	02/19	Carol Hoover	03/13
		Doris Wallace	03/13
		Denise Yow	03/13
		Dwight Baker	03/16
		Linda Fedder	03/16
		Dawn Maise	03/17
		Tom DeBusk	03/18
		Cathy Knobloch	03/19
		Brian Hoover	03/20
		Brenda Panella	03/20
		Dennis Donahue	03/21
		Greg Gervasio	03/22
		Matthew Maise	03/23
		Addie McSherley	03/23
		Jim Bennett	03/28
		Ann Waldron	03/28
		Sharon Snellings	03/29
		Greg Conrad	03/30

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.

2017-2018 Dues

NOTE: The fiscal year for Newcomers ends on **March 31**. So, it's time to renew your membership. Annual dues will remain at **\$30.00** per household. However, if you get your payment in *prior to April 1st*, 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 and Program

February 8th, Meeting

Program "Bringing Back Chestnut Trees" Doug Gillis from Charlotte will be speaking

The American chestnut has been missing from our eastern forests for 100 years. Now the American Chestnut Foundation is attempting to breed blight-resistant chestnuts in hopes of restoring this beautiful tree to the landscape. Doug Gillis, president of the foundation's Carolinas chapter, will talk about the progress the foundation is making at our club's monthly meeting on **Wednesday, February 8**. Doug, a resident of Charlotte, will also show samples of chestnut wood.



The presentation begins at 10:30 a.m. at Hickory Regional Airport, just past the Crawdads stadium. We meet in the old terminal building, near Hickory Hop and Crosswind Cafe.

= Elections on March 8 =

Club members will vote on new officers on Wednesday, March 8, at our monthly meeting. Below is the list of candidates the current board endorsed at its January 25th meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor for additional candidates before we vote by secret ballot. Most of the current officers have agreed to return. New candidates to the board are marked with an asterisk.

Proposed Slate:

Carol Hoover, president
Joe Paussa, vice president
* Francine Gissy, secretary
Vince LeGrand, treasurer
Dianne Straley, past president
Bob Jones, director
Shari Kidd, director
Adra Kryszczuk, director
* Denise Bukovan, director

Sharing what you know

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.



New logo CONTEST

The Board has extended its deadline for our contest to create a new club logo. We will use the art on 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, February 24. We hope you will consider submitting your ideas.

Thank you - Carol Hoover



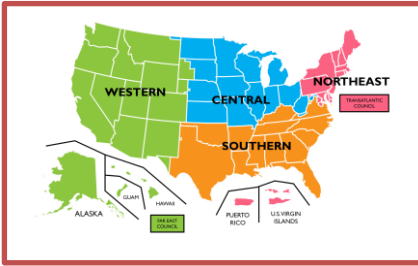
Quarterly Charity

January through March

This quarter charity is the Corner Table. The Corner Table is a soup kitchen located at 122 North Main Street, Newton NC. They provide nutritious meals to men, women, and children who are in need, in and around the Newton area. They can use fresh produce, canned goods, as well as meat, and "to-go-bag" material. For more information call 828-464-0355.

Joseph M Paussa
Charity Chairman

Upcoming Events



States Dinner

"Where are you from?" is a common question heard around Newcomers. At 6:00 p.m. Friday, February 24, we will learn more about each other's backgrounds and home states. That's when the club will host a States Dinner, organized by Shari Kidd at the Hickory Regional Airport. The dinner will be a potluck, with members asked to bring dishes that reflect their home state. Crosswinds Cafe will provide ice tea, coffee and desserts. There is no charge for food.

There will be a map so you can show where you are from. And you may find someone else in the club is from your area. After dinner you will have your choice of poker, bingo or pinochle. Players can buy 12 bingo sheets for \$5, with that money going toward prizes. We also will learn the winner of our month-long Poker Run, which began January 28 at our Big Chill dance. To participate, you can pick up a specially marked playing card at any Newcomers activity in February – from bridge to shooting to canasta to dominoes. The more club activities you participate in, the better your chance at a winning hand – and the prize. A total of \$50 in gift cards or cash will be rewarded. The winner and their cards must be present at the States Dinner to win. To sign up, email Shari at **kidd915sl@gmail.com** and tell her what food you will bring, the state it represents and what game you will play. Sign up deadline is 10 a.m. Wednesday, February 22.

Wine & Design Party



February 9, 2:00pm – 4:30pm

Wine and Design Hickory,
2440 North Center Street, Hickory, NC

Let's get off the couch, turn off the TV, shake off the mid-winter blues and go do a new and fun activity at Wine and Design in Hickory! A comfortable art studio where people (who generally may not feel very artistic but could produce a masterpiece with an instructor's guidance) gather to sip and snack while painting and enjoying time together. The cost is a reasonable \$25 per person. Attendees are invited to bring snacks and beverages (wine is allowed) to share. Select from several possible designs that you can paint (guided by an instructor). Check out the eight available designs on the .pdf attachment on the club's calendar (football helmet and monogram pieces are customized to individual preferences). Let's have fun expressing our creative sides, all you artist wanna be's (and have something nice to take home to show for it)! Contact Denise Bukovan, dbukovan@gmail.com with your design preferences.

Sponsor Spotlight



We are continuing to highlight the sponsors who support the Newcomers of Catawba Valley. When you need a service, please look to the sponsor page to see if one of our sponsors can provide the help you need. Sponsors are the first listing under the Resource tab.

This month we are spotlighting Time Genies LLC, a personal/corporate concierge and errand service. Time Genies has been a sponsor for a few years. Recently featured in a full page of the Hickory Daily Record's Notable Neighbor section, this small local company was awarded the 'Best of Thumbtack' in 2014 and 2015 and 'Thumbtack Top Pro' in 2016. The list of services they provide is too extensive to go into here. Please check out their website.

When you click on any sponsor's ad, you'll automatically be taken to that sponsor's web page. And, remember, if you use one of our sponsors, please be sure to thank them for sponsoring the Newcomers of Catawba Valley!

Adra
for the Web Team

Ride Sharing



Newcomers of Catawba Valley encourages members to notify the event coordinator of any function whenever he or she may find they are unable to attend a function due to lack of ride or nighttime driving issues. 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 meet members who may live nearby!

Single Members



Single members (and there are more than 40 of you!) are always welcome at any of our events! Please let us know how we can help you enjoy the events of your club. 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.



Game Nights

Wednesday, February 1st and Thursday, February 16th

6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

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

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. We offer Rummikub, Canasta, Mahjongg, Dominoes, and new this year Pinochle and Euchre. Get your group together or just come on out and try a new game. Please note on your R.S.V.P. the game you wish to play. Play includes a catered dinner, cost is **\$7**. 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.

= New Game Schedule - Starting in March =

Newcomers will see a schedule change in the popular games that so many of us enjoy. We are shifting one of the two Game Nights to days, said coordinator Shari Kidd, who runs two Game Nights monthly. We are doing this because many of us prefer not to drive at night. Also, shifting one gaming event to the day should reduce the crowds we are seeing at daytime canasta. Now we will have two chances a month to play canasta during the day and two more to play canasta at night. Here is the new schedule, starting in March:

First Tuesday, 6 p.m.: Dominoes. Run by Bob and Maureen Jones, dinner is \$7. Players will be assigned to bring desserts on an alphabetical rotation.

Second Thursday, 11:30 a.m.: Game Day. Run by Shari Kidd, lunch is \$10. Crosswinds Cafe will provide lunch and dessert. Games include canasta, rummikub, dominoes, euchre, pinochle and mahjongg.

Third Wednesday, 6 p.m.: Game Night. Run by Shari Kidd, dinner is \$7. Players will be assigned to bring desserts on an alphabetical rotation. Games include canasta, rummikub, dominoes, euchre, pinochle and mahjongg.

Fourth Thursday, 11:30 a.m.: Daytime Canasta. Run by Martha Conrad, lunch is \$10. Crosswinds Cafe provides lunch and dessert.

- Dianne Straley



Lunch Out

Hi Folks,

It's time for the Newcomers Monthly Lunch Out. This month we are going to an interesting new restaurant that I think you will like on **Thursday, February 2nd**; it's called BOCA. BOCA has a little different feel from some restaurants that we have visited; it has a somewhat cozy Mediterranean feel and the food is great. For those of you who have not tried BOCA yet, you can view their menu, by visiting their website at www.bocahickory.com. The restaurant is located in the newly renovated Moretz Mills on 74 8th Street SE, Suite 108, in Hickory. The meeting time for this month will be at 11:30 a.m. Please send your **RSVP** to bethanycw@charter.net by noon on Monday, January 30.

See you soon.
Chuck Bethany



NCV Bridge Schedule **FEBRUARY**

Wednesday, Feb. 1st
Monday, Feb. 6th
Monday, Feb. 13th
Wednesday, Feb. 15th
Monday, Feb. 20th

Kathy Rozea
Helen Woodyard
Pat Mozgala
Carol Parker
Laurie Johnsen

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



Coffee and Conversation

This month, we are meeting at Atlanta Bread on **February 24th at 2 pm**. Let Sheri Binning know if you can come or just show up, ronald.binning@gmail.com.

Dominoes

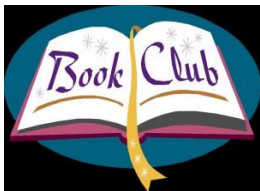


The games are held at the Hickory Airport, on the first **Tuesday** of the month at **6 PM**. The Crosswinds Cafe at the airport provides us with dinner, for \$7 per person. The same rules apply as for Game Nights: Deadline for making reservations will be 6 pm on Sunday night! Once you make your reservation, 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 "Chicken Foot" Dominoes. The next "Dominoes will be on **February 7th, 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 contact Maureen at 828-302-2385, or email her @ mfj1759@gmail.com.

Book Club



Our current book selection is **A Man Called Ove** by [Fredrik Backman](#), a truly delightful book and movie if you ever get the chance to see it. Ove is a curmudgeon—the kind of man who points at people he dislikes as if they were burglars caught outside his bedroom window. He has staunch principles, strict routines, and a short fuse. People call him “the bitter neighbor from hell.” But there is more to Ove than what meets the eye. Join us on **March 22nd at 1:30** at the Women's Resource Center to discuss this wonderful book. We invite anyone to come and discuss the book with us. For information please contact Sue Asp twoasps@gmail.com or Betty Schwartz bettyesch69@gmail.com.



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 (February 14th)** of each month and at **noon on the fourth Thursday (February 23rd)** 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 started its 6th season on September 29th.

We bowl at Pin Station in Newton on Business 321 (also known as Northwest Boulevard) 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...

(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 LeGrand**, legravin@gmail.com or **828-466-8218**.



Daytime Canasta

Daytime Canasta is on the **fourth Thursday** of each month. Lunch and canasta begin **at 11:30 a.m.** on **February 23rd**. Lunch, dessert, beverages and an afternoon of fun filled Canasta is \$10. If you don't want to have lunch, you can play cards and enjoy dessert and beverages for only \$5. Don't know how to play? There is always a learning table offered for those who want to learn or simply brush up on their skills. 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 828-320-8964**. To join in the fun, contact **Martha at marthaconrad@charter.net** or call her at home for more information at **828-495-4599**.

Mahjongg

Interested in Mahjongg?



If you are curious about American Mahjongg, come watch us play, to see if you want lessons. We play twice weekly at Pinecrest retirement center, 915 29th Ave. NE, on the second floor. Newcomers are there at **1:30 p.m. Tuesdays**, and **10:30 a.m. Fridays**. We enjoy going out to lunch after our Friday game.

A reminder to mahjongg players to order your 2017 card from www.nationalmahjonggleague.org at a cost of \$9. The cards will be delivered the last week of March, and we will use them the first time at our April 4 game. Until then, several players are pushing hard to successfully play all 62 games on our current card.

I want to welcome new mahjongg player Rick Wagman, who picked up the game very quickly. I hope Rick's presence is an ice breaker and more men will join our group.

Dianne Straley
dfwhit@gmail.com

Rummikub

Rummikub will be held on **February 21st**. For more information, please check the website or contact Michele LeGrand at exermom@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 bettysch69@gmail.com.

Welcome New Members

- Teeky Kenny and Mike Caudill from Potomac, Maryland