



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

March 2017

Officers

President –
Carol Hoover

Vice President –
Joe Paussa

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 Paussa

Coffee &
Conversation
Sheri Binning

Hello Newcomers,

Our last two months special events have been very successful. Thank you to Greg, Martha and Ryan Conrad and Vince LeGrand for a fabulous Big Chill Party with food, music, lights and dancing. Thank you to Denise Bukovan for organizing the fun wine and design party. Thank you to Shari and Bob Kidd, Kathy and Mike Rozea, Adra and Zig Kryszczuk, Joe and Hedy Paussa for hosting our States Dinner and to all of our members who brought fabulous dishes from their home states. Thank you to our many volunteers that organize ongoing activities several times a month and make our club wonderful.

This month we are excited to announce a NEW Games Day. Based on large responses for our Daytime Canasta we have added more games during the day. Thank you to Lori and Greg Gervasio for stepping up to coordinate these activities. Details are included in this month's newsletter.

At our general meeting on March 8th we will be voting on new officers for the board. We have two position to fill and our nominating committee has done a great job to bring us nominations. The slate of officers includes Carol Hoover, Joe Paussa, Vince LeGrand, Dianne Straley, Shari Kidd, Bob Jones and new member Francine Gissy serving as secretary and Denise Bukovan with a focus on publicity. I am delighted to see new members offering to serve. We will also take nominations from the floor that morning so please come and vote.

At this meeting we will talk about what went well and what could be improved upon. We are very interested to know your ideas about special events, socials, activities or trips you would like to see offered next year.

Please join us on March 8th 10:30 at the Hickory Airport for our meeting focused on the board, your club, your feedback on the past year and ideas for the near future. I look forward to seeing you there.

Carol Hoover,
President, Newcomers of Catawba Valley



Evening Socials
Shari Kidd

Game Nights–
Shari Kidd

Daytime Games–
Lori & Greg Gervasio

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

March		April	
Shirley Strickland	03/01	Judy Dostall	04/04
Chuck Bethany	03/03	Mike Caudill	04/05
Helen Reed	03/06	Mike Flo	04/08
Harriet Bates	03/07	John Almeida	04/09
Peggy Meyer	03/07	Don Baldwin	04/10
Kip Kippenhan	03/10	Margie Dickey	04/10
Judy Fahrenholz	03/11	William Waldron	04/11
Lori Gervasio	03/12	Margaret Clayton	04/15
Monty Matthews	03/12	Maureen Jones	04/15
Larry Parker	03/12	Collette Wronek	04/15
Carol Hoover	03/13	Dianne Straley	04/17
Doris Wallace	03/13	Joe Durand	04/18
Denise Yow	03/13	Lisa Burel	04/20
Dwight Baker	03/16	Chad Burel	04/26
Linda Fedder	03/16	Naomi East	04/27
Dawn Maise	03/17	Susan Perkins	04/27
Tom DeBusk	03/18	Dale M Pfingst	04/28
Cathy Knobloch	03/19	Bert Perkins	04/30
Brian Hoover	03/20	Susan Turner	04/30
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
Board elections on March 8
10:30 a.m. Hickory Airport

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

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Sponsor Spotlight

In this continuing series highlighting the sponsors who support the Newcomers of Catawba Valley, this month I am spotlighting Catawba Valley Community College. Please remember to look to the sponsor page when you need a service. Sponsors are the first listing under the Resource tab.

Catawba Valley Community College (CVCC) was ranked #1 in the NICHE.com 2017 Best Community Colleges in North Carolina! This school offers opportunities for those just starting out to anyone who might want to change careers or just learn something new. The possibilities are endless. What an engaging website. Check it out for yourself!

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!



Catawba Valley Newcomers Quarterly Charity January through March

The Corner Table is a soup kitchen located at 122 N. Main St., Newton, N. C. Their purpose is to provide nutritious meals in a comfortable environment for any men, women, or children who are in need. They serve 150 meals a day, restaurant-style.

Lunch is served from 11:30am - 12:30pm Items needed by The Corner Table are:

Mayo	Beef broth	Napkins
Ranch dressing	Whole canned potatoes	Bisquick
Apple cider vinegar	Individual chips	Ketchup
Egg noodles	Pudding cups or fruit cups	Sandwich bags
Canned spice apples	Chicken broth	33 gal trash bags
Plastic grocery bags	Food service gloves	

The executive director Summer Jenkins says... they need volunteers to serve lunches, stockroom help, and pick-up/deliveries. ***You can contact Summer at 828-464-0355***

Donations to 3 charities

Newcomers donated a total of **\$850** to three deserving charities in 2017, an example of your club's commitment to improving our community.

Here is where your money went:

- \$250 to Imagination Library, which mails one book a month to more than 6,000 preschoolers in Catawba County. Read about Imagination Library at www.catawbakids.com. The program is operated by Catawba County Partnership for Children.
- \$250 to Robin's Nest Child Advocacy Center in Lenoir. This nonprofit works with sexually and severely physically abused children in Caldwell County. Learn more at www.robinsnestcac.org/
- *\$350 to Friends of the Hickory Public Library, which provides support and resources to the library. The donation includes \$100 for the Ridgeview branch. Learn more at www.hickorync.gov/content/friends-library

The board thanks longtime board member **John Bates** for researching and recommending these nonprofits. John is leaving our board – but NOT Newcomers – on April 1. **Thanks, John!**

Upcoming Events



Trip to Greenville, SC, Planned for Saturday, April 1

Greenville, South Carolina with its picturesque refurbished West End, scenic river walk, scrumptious dining choices and artsy shops is a popular tourist destination these days. Newcomers is planning a trip to Greenville, on Saturday, April 1.

We'll begin with a visit to Mast General Store, a throwback to the old fashioned general stores of the past. It's filled with everything from candy, clothing, memorabilia, novelty items and tons more. Something for everyone.

From there we'll visit The West End where a majority of the charming shops are. There is a river walk that winds around by the river. Lots of food places, specialty shops, galleries, and stores filled with artisan gifts...

We plan to arrive at West End by 11:30 to beat the lunch rush and then do lunch. After lunch comes free time to shop, do the river walk along the Reedy. You might want to wear layers and comfortable shoes. We'll head back to Hickory around 4:00 pm.

R.S.V.P by March 30th to Respond to Teena Stewart at teenastewart412@gmail.com, or call (707) 980-0317. Also, if you are willing to transport others, indicate how many you can fit in your vehicle.

Meet at Roses Department Store parking lot on US 70 (just west of the US 321 interchange) at 8:45 a.m. on April 1.

That BLUE Recycling Cart

Did you ever wonder what happens to the glass bottles, newspapers, cardboard, and cans you collect in your big blue recycling cart? On March 24, you can watch people and sophisticated machines sort recyclables, which greatly reduces the amount of material that goes into our landfill. Newcomers will visit the area recycling sorting center run by Republic Services on **Friday, March 24. Our tour starts at 2 p.m.**

The Material Recovery Facility can process 300 tons of recyclables daily. It is part of the reason that Catawba County has ranked in the top 5 of the 100 N.C. counties for recycling in the last 17 years. The plant is located at 130 Somerset Dr. NW, Conover, about 2 miles northeast of Catawba Valley Medical Center. You can meet us there or join a carpool that will leave from the hospital parking lot. Look for us in the northeast corner of the lot, nearest the walking track and Fairgrove Church Road. Our carpools will leave at 1:45 p.m.

Questions? Contact Dianne Straley at 308-4282 or dfwhit@gmail.com. Please let me know by email if you are coming so we can give our tour guide a headcount.



House of Mugs



March 14th, House of Mugs in Collettsville: - Join us from **11 a.m.** to **3 p.m.** to visit a unique house covered with over 30,000 mugs. It was described in the Hickory Daily Record on July 17, 2016. We will plan to carpool and have a brown bag picnic on a riverside picnic table and enjoy a beautiful spring outing.

Contact: Louise Judd, @ louise70@embarqmail.com.

Lunch Out



Hi Folks,

It's time for the Newcomers Monthly Lunch Out. This month we are going to, **Olde Hickory Station** in downtown Hickory. It's in the old train station building, across the tracks from Union Square. The Hickory Post Office is located in the rear of this building, on **Thursday, March 2nd**, at **11:30am**. After orders are taken, the manager has agreed to give a little talk on the background of the building. It is, of course, the old train station for Hickory. This will be a short speech, perhaps five or ten minutes.

Again, please email me Paige Straley, (jpstraley@gmail.com) if you plan to attend.

Coffee and Conversation



This month, we will go to **Liazzo's** on **127** on **Friday, March 31st** at **1 pm**. They have been catering here for a long time. Now, they have a small spot to eat in or take out. Also, they have some good pastries for us! Let Sheri Binning know if you can come or just show up, ronald.binning@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 adding a Game Day to our current schedule and keeping two Game Nights. We are doing this because many of us prefer not to drive at night. And after hearing concerns of many Game Night players, we are keeping BOTH Game Nights, although the schedule has changed a bit. Here is the new schedule, starting in March. This is the general calendar, but shifts will be made to accommodate holidays and a crowded calendar. For March games, please check the calendar on the Newcomers website:

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 Lori and Greg Gervasio. A light lunch is \$6, with no dessert. Crosswind Cafe will cater. Games include canasta, rummikub, dominoes, euchre, pinochle and mahjongg. (New event)

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. (New date)

Fourth Monday, 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. (New date)

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

NEW Games Day (New addition)

Join us for a light lunch and games on **Thursday March 30th at 11:30 a.m.** at the Hickory Airport for canasta, rummikub, dominoes, euchre, pinochle, mahjongg or other games suggested by members. Cost will be **\$6.00** for light lunch. No desserts are offered or required however members may choose to bring a dessert to share if they desire. If a member cancels after the RSVP deadline they are still expected to pay for their meal that had been ordered. **Please RSVP no later Monday of the same week (Monday March 27th) to Lori and Greg Gervasio at ljgerv@yahoo.com.**



Game Nights

Thursday, March 15th, and Monday, March 27th 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.

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

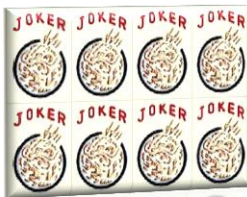
We are looking forward to seeing everyone at one or both of the game nights this month, so come eat dinner and play the game of your choice. We offer Rummikub, Canasta, Mahjongg, Dominoes, and new this year Pinochle and Euchre. Get your group together or just come on out and try a new game. Please note 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.

Daytime Canasta



Daytime Canasta is on the **fourth Thursday** of each month. **March 23rd**, lunch and canasta begin **at 11:30 a.m.** 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?
Learn to play Mahjongg**

If you are curious about the fun and addictive game of American mahjongg, come watch us play to see if you want lessons. We play at **1:30 p.m. Tuesdays** and **10:30 a.m. Fridays** in the second-floor billiard room of the Pinecrest Retirement Center, 915 29th Ave. NE. Please park on the east side of the building. Dianne Straley dfwhit@gmail.com

Rummikub

Rummikub will be held on **Tuesday, March 21st**. For more information, please check the website or contact Michele LeGrand at exermom@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 **March 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 Bob Jones at itsmerbj@charter.net.



Bridge Schedule MARCH

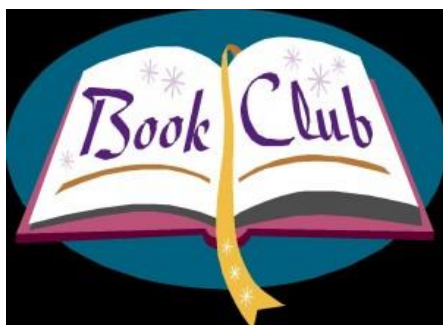
Wednesday, March 1st	CANCELLED
Monday, March 6th	Gloria Berg
Monday, March 13th	Karen Schafer
Wednesday, March 15th	Karen Schafer
Monday, March 20th	Betty Stone

APRIL

Monday, April 3rd	Margie Dickey
Wednesday, April 5th	Susan Perkins
Monday, April 10th	Norma Leimbach
Monday, April 17th	Gloria Berg
Wednesday, April 19th	Norma Leimbach

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

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 (March 14th)** of each month and at **noon on the fourth Thursday (March 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**.

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.



Ride Sharing

Newcomers of Catawba Valley encourages members who may be unable to attend any of our functions due to lack of ride or nighttime driving issues to notify the event coordinator or any other club member for assistance. There are members throughout the area and we are always happy to be sure everyone is able to attend our activities. It's a great way to meet members who live nearby!

Single Members



Single members are always welcome at **any** Newcomer event! As a matter of fact, the club has more than 40 members who are single and also have members who choose to attend events alone. Want someone accompany you to an event? Please contact the event coordinator or a board member; we'll connect you with others who'll be going. Please let us know how we can help you enjoy the events of your club.

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.