



**NEWCOMERS OF  
CATAWBA VALLEY**  
2425 North Center Street  
#169, Hickory NC 28601  
[www.newcomersofcv.com](http://www.newcomersofcv.com)

**December 2017**

### Officers

President –  
Carol Hoover

Vice President –  
Joe Paussa

Treasurer –  
Vince LeGrand

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– Francine Gissy

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Sue Asp, Betty  
Schwartz

Bowling –  
Vince LeGrand

Bridge –  
Gloria Berg

Dominoes -  
Bob Jones, Cheri &  
Ed Stewart

Canasta –  
Chris Beckom,  
Hedy Paussa

Charity Coordinator–  
Joe Paussa

### **President's Column**

Hello Newcomers,

December is upon us and a season often filled with gift giving. Regardless of how you celebrate the holidays, you may find yourself searching for gifts for others. I have reached the stage in my life that I do not need any more "stuff." I know many of my friends are the same way; we have plenty of "stuff."

Yet the holidays fill us with tender feelings for others and offering a gift is a message on our affection for them. It occurs to me that no matter how many gifts you give or not, time is one of our biggest gifts.

Spending time with others and having conversations on the phone or with technology is a great gift to both the giver and receiver. So go ahead and plan this year to give a gift of time. Call an old college friend you have not spoken to in years. Reach out to a cousin, some elderly relatives and long lost friends. One year I called a different person each day between Christmas and New Year's. It was a lot of fun and very rewarding.

If you have young people to visit, you may enjoy Skyping or Facetime with children to see their expressions. Be sure to send a great big kiss by pretending to kiss the microphone. When I Skype with children they always giggle and laugh when they see my lips grow big on the screen while I make big slobbery kissing sounds.

So go ahead and give yourself and others a gift of time. Keeping our relationships strong is a blessing and a treasure. In celebration of the holidays I wish you joy, hope for the future and peace.

Thank you.

*Carol Hoover*

President,  
Newcomers Club of Catawba Valley



Coffee &  
Conversation  
Sheri Binning  
Games Nights-  
Shari Kidd

Games Day-  
Lori Gervasio

Dominos-  
Bob Jones

Hospitality -  
Michele LeGrand,  
Carol Sawicki

Lunch Out -  
Chuck Bethany

Mah jongg -  
Dianne Straley

Members Helping  
Members -  
Betty Schwartz

Rummikub -  
Michele LeGrand

Shooting and  
Bowling -  
Vince LeGrand

Events Committee -  
Carol Hoover, Dianne  
Straley, Dottie  
Demarest, Cindy  
Donahue, Patsy  
Lang, Kevin  
McCutcheon, Haydee  
Pudjak, Audrey  
Rozzelle and Sharon  
Snelling

Web Team -  
Adra Kryszczuk,  
Michele LeGrand  
Joe Paussa  
Greg Gervasio

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## Happy Birthday to Our Members

December		January	
Rosie Bray	12/02	Floyd Clark	01/01
Kevin Fleck	12/05	John Murgu	01/01
Michael Kane	12/05	Lee Wagoner	01/01
Betty Ann Williams	12/09	John Montgomery	01/02
Carol Parker	12/10	Patricia Lang	01/04
Chris Beckom	12/12	Eric Koch	01/07
Rich Colton	12/12	Wil Mullins	01/07
Dale Pflingst	12/14	Hedy Paussa	01/07
Sharon Bennett	12/15	Dennis Valkanoff	01/10
Albert Derocher	12/15	Kevin McCutcheon	01/16
Pam Wagoner	12/15	Gail L. Miller	01/17
Millie Kaufman	12/17	Sandra Thompson	01/18
Gary Staton	12/18	Sue Asp	01/21
Kay Stone	12/18	Barb Beck	01/21
Kathy Durand	12/21	Sue Bumgarner	01/23
Joe Paussa	12/21	Royce Dunn	01/23
Jeff Stewart	12/24	Betty Stone	01/23
Denise Bukovan	12/29	Bob Connor	01/28
Joyce Dennis	12/29	Ginny Heinrich	01/29
Ginny Koch	12/29	Steve Womack	01/29
Karen Schafer	12/31	Edie Ashman	01/30
		Carolyn Eanes	01/30
		Mary Ellen Glover	01/30

Please email Susan Reese at [sereese62@gmail.com](mailto:sereese62@gmail.com) if your birthday is not listed or if you would prefer that your birthday not be listed.



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## **General Meeting and Program**

**10:30 a.m. Hickory Airport**

### **Miracle on the Hudson**

Our December speaker will be: *Elizabeth McHugh*

A survivor of US Airways Flight 1549 that crash landed on New York's Hudson River will talk about her experience with Newcomers of Catawba Valley on December 13. **Elizabeth McHugh** was on the flight home to Charlotte when the plane collided with a flock of Canada geese, forcing an emergency landing that has come to be known as the Miracle on the Hudson. **McHugh** will speak at **10:30 a.m. at Hickory Regional Airport, 3101 9th Ave. Dr. NW**. She was one of 155 survivors, many of them from the Charlotte area. She is now retired and volunteers at the Carolinas Aviation Museum, near Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, where that airplane is on display.

Newcomers will also have several showings of **Sully**, the movie that tells the story of Flight 1549.

Judy and Greg Dostall will show **Sully** at 2:30 p.m. on both Dec. 4 and Dec. 6 at their home, 107 Iswa Drive, Taylorsville. Space is limited so call to see if a seat is available: 598-0385.

Vince and Michele LeGrand will show **Sully** at 2 p.m. on either Dec. 5 or Dec. 7, depending on demand. They live at 1404 Redmon Ct., Newton. Call to see if space is still available: 466-8218.

The presentation is open to the public.

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### **Sponsor Spotlight**



Here is another in the series of articles on the sponsors who support Newcomers of Catawba Valley -- a reminder to our members to check the sponsor page **first** when you need a service. You will find Sponsors listed under the 'About Us' tab on the Newcomers website.

Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning is a long-time sponsor of Newcomers. Heaven's Best Services offers carpet and upholstery cleaning, air duct and dryer vent cleaning and sanitizing, hardwood floor cleaning and polishing, tile and grout cleaning and sealing, marble polishing, oriental and area rug cleaning for residential and commercial needs. The company is focused on providing a clean green atmosphere in the home or business. Their environmentally friendly and proprietary cleaning solutions are safe for children (even babies) and pets. Their goal is to be as "green" as you can get and still get the job done.

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



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## Catawba Valley Newcomers Quarterly Charity - October through December

### TOYS for TOTS



Our quarterly charity October to December is us Marine Corps TOYS for TOTS is a funding and support organization for the US Marine Corps since 1991.

The mission of the US Marine Corp TOYS for TOTS program is to collect new unwrapped toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community. During this quarter, unwrapped toys may be brought to any Newcomers function. The US Marine Corp will provide Christmas barrels around the community. Last year the Newcomers filled the barrels more than any other organization. Thank You for your support.

There is an extensive list on their website (*see the 'Charities' tab on the Newcomers webpage*)

### Up Coming Events

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### FUN AND GAMES

#### Games Day

Join us for lunch and games on **Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.** at the Hickory Airport for Canasta, Rummikub, Dominoes, Euchre, Pinochle, Mah Jongg or other games suggested by members. Cost will be **\$7** for 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 deadline they are still expected to pay for the meal that had been ordered. Please R.S.V.P. to **Lori Gervasio** at [ljgerv@yahoo.com](mailto:ljgerv@yahoo.com)

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### Lunch Out



This December we are going to:

Please consider my invitation and send your **RSVP** to [bethanycw@charter.net](mailto:bethanycw@charter.net) by noon on Monday, **December 4<sup>th</sup>** so that I can remind the restaurant that we are coming.

See you soon, Chuck Bethany

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### **Games Night**



**Wednesday, December 13th, 6:00 p.m.**

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

**Second Game Night cancelled for December**

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the games night this month, so come eat dinner and play the game of your choice. We offer Rummikub, Canasta, Mah jongg, 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!

**P.S. We are looking for people that want to play SPADES ♠ AND HEARTS ♥**  
R.S.V.P. to Shari Kidd at [kidd915sl@gmail.com](mailto:kidd915sl@gmail.com).

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## Rummikub



Rummikub will be held on **Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**, at:

Rummikub is a fast moving rummy tile game. Players make sets of tiles with the same numbers in different colors or build runs of tiles in the same color. Will usually meet at member's homes. The hostess will provide snacks and drinks. Everyone is welcome. Please contact Michele LeGrand if you have questions, [exermom@gmail.com](mailto:exermom@gmail.com). Please contact the hostess by 10 p.m. the night before the game so that they are sure to have enough tables, etc. R.S.V.P. to [adraellen@yahoo.com](mailto:adraellen@yahoo.com).

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## Daytime Canasta



Daytime Canasta is the **third Thursday** of each month, **December 21<sup>st</sup>**. 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 Chris Beckom on her cell A.S.A.P. at 254-285-1611**. To join in the fun, contact Chris at [beckomgc@outlook.com](mailto:beckomgc@outlook.com).

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## **Mah Jongg**



Come learn to play **Mah jongg**. Club members play twice weekly at **Pinecrest Retirement Center, 915 29<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Hickory**. Would-be players get their first "lesson" by watching us play. If they decide the game is for them, I schedule lessons. I tell interested people that American **mah jongg** is easier than bridge and harder than canasta – and it stretches the brain! We play at **1:30 p.m. Tuesdays** and **10:30 a.m. Fridays**.

- Dianne Straley, [dfwhit@gmail.com](mailto:dfwhit@gmail.com)

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## **Coffee and Conversation**



We'll meet on **Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**, at **Highland Coffee** in downtown Lenoir at **2 pm**. There are a number of restaurants downtown for lunch as well. After coffee, we can look at the decorated trees in front of all the businesses. They are different every year. Sheri, [ronald.binning@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.binning@gmail.com).

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## **Bridge Schedule**

### **December**

**Monday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Bridge Party at Kathy Rozea's**

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

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## **Bowling**

We bowl at Pin Station in Newton on Business 321 on **December 14th**. For more information their website is: [www.pinstationbowling.com](http://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. 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.



## **Target Shooting**

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](http://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**, of each month, at **NOON**. This month it's **December 12<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>** . Contact **Vince LeGrand** for information on shooting [legravin@gmail.com](mailto:legravin@gmail.com) or **828-466-8218**.

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## **Book Club**



Joyce Dennis is hosting a **Holiday Salad Luncheon** at her home on **Wednesday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>** at noon for the Newcomer's Book Club. If you have attended at least one meeting this past year, we would love to have you join us for this potluck event. **Reservations are required!** After lunch, we will view a movie based upon a book read by the group.

The Newcomers Book Club meets every other month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, at the Women's Resource Center at 1:30 p.m. The group is currently in the process of deciding our selections for 2018, and they will be posted on the web site as soon as they are available.

For information on Book Club, contact Sue Asp at [twoasps@gmail.com](mailto:twoasps@gmail.com) or Betty Schwartz at [bettysch69@gmail.com](mailto:bettysch69@gmail.com)

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## **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 **Betty Schwartz**. For more information, contact Betty at [betty69@gmail.com](mailto:betty69@gmail.com).

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### **Sharing what you know**



Would **YOU** like to teach a workshop? So many club members have wonderful skills to share.

Maybe you could lead a class/walk in bird identification. Maybe you could 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](mailto:dfwhit@gmail.com), if you have an idea for sharing your talents.

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### **New Members in November**

Sandi Shear from CT  
Penny and Bill Boyd from FL  
Louise and Harold Mason from LA/Charlotte, NC  
Donna and Jeff McDermott from VA/Clemmons, NC