



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

## **President's Column:**

Happy New Year to all,

We have had a great year in 2017. As I look back, I am truly impressed with all of the events and activities our volunteers have hosted. Thank you! This year we had a Big Chill Party, States Dinner, Pontoon Boat Party and Holiday Party. We traveled to Asheville for art, Greenville to shop and Clinton, to experience the total solar eclipse. We have enjoyed baseball games, winery events, and lunches out, coffee and conversation trips to fun locations, book club and weekly games of Bridge, Rummikub, Dominoes, Bowling, Shooting, Mah Jongg and Canasta.

In our monthly programs we have been delighted by presentations on gardening, birds and the American Chestnut Tree. We have had become better informed about city planning efforts, home safety, breast and heart health and how to outsmart our smart phones. We enjoyed an elegant day at the NC Governor's Mansion, heard amazing accounts about Sen. Sam Erving's role in the Watergate hearings, the Titanic, the history of Hart Square and terrifying and inspirational stories from a survivor of the plane crash on the Hudson River.

We are a generous bunch, donating more toys than any other organization too Toys for Tots and we have made generous contributions to the South Mountain Children's Home, Humane Society of Burke County, The Corner Table, Exodus Homes, and Friends of the Library for Ridgeview, Hickory, and Caldwell County and Alexander Children's Center. Great work by all of our members. Thank you!

So what's new? We are pleased to have over 70 member volunteers to host our weekly and monthly activities. New coordinators are stepping up to host Games Day, Game Nights and the Special Event Committee. Thank you! Board elections will take place in March. As a volunteer organization, we need your help. Volunteers are currently needed to help set up and tear down on Games Nights once per month. If you could help, please let me know.

With your help, what do you see in store for 2018?



*Carol Hoover, President of the Newcomers Club of Catawba Valley.*

## **President's Notes:**

### **Attention Games Night Attendees...**

*Over the past several months we have left the airport close to 10pm. This creates impacts for the Airport Firefighters and Crosswind Café staff that lock up the airport when we leave. To reduce the negative consequences to others, below is a new schedule for our Games Nights. Please make a note of these times and please plan accordingly.*

***Sign in and game assignments 5:30-6:00 p.m.***

***Dinner served 6:00 p.m.***

***Games begin 6:30 p.m.***

***Lock up 9:00 p.m.***

*We are in need of at least one more member to provide assistance at each of the two games nights each month. Job sharing is fine. We all travel and have other obligations. ☺ Duties include setting up table cloths & cards, meal help, coordinating games assignments, misc. general assistance.*

*Thank you to all members who often help throughout the night, clean up tables, store supplies and other tasks. Lots of hands make quick work. ☺*

## **Coming Events:**

### **Destination Delights – 'd'oeuvres and desserts''**

***January 22, 2018 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. - Hickory Airport***

Join us for a fun evening celebrating all the places we've been – or wish we could go! Newcomers is sponsoring an evening of fun to get away from the January blahs. Try your cooking or baking skills and sign up to bring an hors d'oeuvres platter or dessert celebrating one of these five destinations:

**France, Italy, Mexico, USA, Asia**

We should mention that purchasing an appropriate dish from a local restaurant is completely acceptable!! Ice Tea, Water and Coffee will be provided. Feel free to bring your beverage of choice. Please R.S.V.P to [scsnellings@gmail.com](mailto:scsnellings@gmail.com) and include what dish you will be bringing. Deadline for making a reservation is **January 12, 2018** – please respond as early as possible to ensure you can attend!

## **Monthly Events:**

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

### **Speaker to talk about –Shingles-**

The Centers for Disease control says one out of every three people will develop Shingles in their lifetime.

We have two speakers on **Wednesday, Jan. 10**, will tell us about a new vaccine that CDS says is far better than Zostavax, the vaccine that most of us have had. Two representatives from the Catawba County Health Department will tell us about Shangri, which reduces the risk of shingles by more than 50 percent. Even if you have already had Zostavax, you should have the new vaccine, which is recommended for all healthy people 50 years and older.

Our meeting starts at 10:30 a.m. in the old terminal building of Hickory Regional Airport. For more information about Zostavax, go to [www.cdc.gov/shingles](http://www.cdc.gov/shingles).

### ***Lunch Out:***

Lunch Out will be at **The Fresh Depot, Thursday, January 11th**, at **11:30 a.m.** You may remember their location on Hickory Square. They are now on **US 321**, 4.0 miles north of the US 321 bridge. We are limited to the first **35** people to sign up.

*There will be an email to the membership in a couple of days with more details.* Please send your **R.S.V.P** to Paige Straley [jpstraley@gmail.com](mailto:jpstraley@gmail.com)

**Coffee & Conversation:** We will go to the **Wooden Spool** in the Furniture Mart on **Friday, January 26th at 1 p.m.** (*a little earlier than normal*). This place is run by the catering company for Mosteller Mansion events. Sheri, [ronald.binning@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.binning@gmail.com)

## **Monthly Games:**

### ***Bridge:***

Monday, Jan. 1st	HOLIDAY
Wednesday, Jan.3rd	Phyllis Kane
Monday, Jan. 8th	Adra Kryszczuk
Monday,Jan.15th	Laurie Johnsen
Wednesday, Jan. 17th	Karen Schafer

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.

***Dominos:***

Dear members, this game will be on, **January 30TH.**

***Daytime Canasta:***

Daytime Canasta is the Third Thursday of each month, **January 18th.** 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)**

***Games Day:***

Join us for lunch and games on **Thursday, January 4th 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.** no later than **January 1st to Haydee Pujdak ([hpujdak@gmail.com](mailto:hpujdak@gmail.com))**

***Mah jongg:***

Come learn to play Mah jongg. Club members' play twice weekly at Pinecrest Retirement Center, 915 29th 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)**

***Games Nights:***

Wednesdays, (**#1**) **Jan 10<sup>th</sup>** contact **Shari**, and (**#2**) **Jan 24<sup>th</sup>** contact **Lori, 6: 00 p.m.** Hickory Regional Airport, 3101 9th Avenue Drive Northwest, Hickory, NC 28601

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) and Lori Gervasio at [ljgerv@yahoo.com](mailto:ljgerv@yahoo.com)**

### **Rummikub:**

Rummikub will be held on **Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**, at **6 p.m.:** (*At this writing, contact Michelle for location*)

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.

### **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 are currently shooting on, **Tuesday, January 9th at 6:30 p.m.** and on **Thursday, January 25th at NOON.** Contact Vince LeGrand for information on shooting [legravin@gmail.com](mailto:legravin@gmail.com) or 828-466-8218.

### **Bowling:**

We bowl at Pin Station in Newton on Business 321 on, **January 4th & January 18th at 6:30 p.m.** 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.

### **Book Club:**

**January 24th - Before We Were Yours, by Lisa Wingate**

Discussion Leader: **Ginny Koch**

From the '30s to 1950, a woman named Georgia Tann, who ran the (Memphis) Tennessee Children's Home Society, stole poor children from their families and newborn babies from single mothers and sold them to celebrities, politicians and others who could afford them. It was all done under the guise of helping orphaned and abandoned children find good homes, but it was actually human trafficking. Based on true events.

*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. Our selections for 2018, are posted on web site. WELCOME NEW MEMBERS... Contacts are: **Sue Asp** or **Betty Schwartz***

## **Making a Difference:**

### ***Charities:***

1st quarter charity, which is from **January 1st to March 31<sup>st</sup>**, will be **Cooperative Christian Ministry**. **CCM** provides supplemental groceries for families and individuals, the homeless and those facing a crisis situation. Food is made available to our clients through partnerships with **Second Harvest Food Bank** and the support of area churches and businesses, as well as through community food drives and donations. The **Nutrition Center** also provides monthly groceries for seniors who live in residential settings. Nutrition education cooking, healthy recipes, shopping on a budget and general wellness classes are also offered.

The thrift store at **CCM** provides assistance to people in need of clothing, coats, shoes, underwear, blankets and household goods at no cost, serving people who are homeless, in crisis, coming out of incarceration and/or seeking employment.

### **Wish list:**

#### **Clothing:**

Backpacks, ski caps, gloves

#### **Food:**

Canned fruit, canned vegetable, cereal, pasta & sauce, dried beans, soup mix, canned meat such as spam, Vienna sausage , tuna etc., snack packs, and local bus tickets (for doctor appointment)

Thank you Joe Paussa

### ***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).

### ***Sharing:***

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.



### ***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.

Tri-City Electric, proudly wiring, lighting, and electrifying Hickory NC area homes and businesses since 1997, offers a wide range of electricity related services from wiring during construction to snaking wires and installing new switches, outlets, and lights post construction to enhance your home or building. Whatever your project, Tri-City Electric can help power that new kitchen or bath, relocate or expand your breaker panel, or update wiring to increase your family's safety and meet North Carolina electric codes.

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

### **New Members:**

- **David and Lori Martin from New Jersey**

### **Birthdays:**

***Wishing all our Members born in JANUARY, the Happiest of Birthdays!!!***

<b>JANUARY</b>		<b>FEBRUARY</b>	
Floyd Clark	01/01	Christi Austin	02/01
John Murgo	01/01	Larry Laufer	02/01
Lee Wagoner	01/01	Teena Stewart	02/02
John Montgomery	01/02	Vicki Mullins	02/06
Patricia Lang	01/04	Mike Rozea	02/06
Eric Koch	01/07	Susan Fontyn	02/08
Wil Mullins	01/07	Barbara Laufer	02/11
Hedy Paussa	01/07	Butch Dunlap	02/15
Dennis Valkanoff	01/10	Peg Baldwin	02/19
Kevin McCutcheon	01/16	Steven Berg	02/20
Gail L. Miller	01/17	Sheila Cooke	02/21
Sandra Thompson	01/18	Joyce Walker	02/21
Sue Asp	01/21	Beth Keane	02/28
Barb Beck	01/21		
Sue Bumgarner	01/23		
Royce Dunn	01/23		
Betty Stone	01/23		
Bob Connor	01/28		
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](mailto:sereese62@gmail.com) if your birthday is not listed or if you would prefer that your birthday not be listed.

## **Contacts & Contributors:**

### **Officers**

**President –**  
Carol Hoover

**Vice President –**  
Joe Paussa

**Treasurer –**  
Vince LeGrand

**Recording Secretary –**  
Francine Gissy

**Past President–**  
Dianne Straley

**Directors –**  
Denise Bukovan  
Adra Kryszczuk  
Carole Reising  
Shari Kidd

**Newsletter Editor**  
Susan Reese

**Items of Interest**  
Adra Kryszczuk

### **Chairpersons**

**Book Club –**  
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

**Coffee & Conversation**  
Sheri Binning

**Games Nights–**  
Shari Kidd  
Lori Gervasio

**Games Day–**  
Haydee Pudjak

**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 –**  
Dianne Straley  
Dottie Demarest  
Cindy Donahue  
Patsy Lang  
Kevin McCutcheon  
Haydee Pudjak  
Audrey Rozzelle  
Sharon Snelling

**Web Team –**  
Adra Kryszczuk,  
Michele LeGrand  
Greg Gervasio

## **Closing thoughts:**

*“If you can’t stop thinking about it, don’t stop working on it...”*