

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

President's Column:

Hello Newcomers,

It's been a cold and snowy winter so far here in the piedmont of NC. The weather may make you want to stay inside and get cozy. Don't worry, this month has a lot to have fun with.

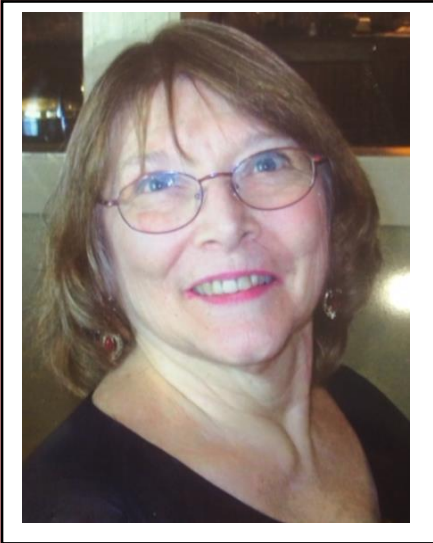
Did you know that **February 3rd is Ice cream for breakfast day?** Our foodies may want to celebrate **February 9th National Pizza Day.** **February 3rd is the Anniversary of the Day the Music Died.** Put on some music and crank it up. Our master gardeners will be paying close attention to **Ground Hog Day on February 4th** as they may be scanning the seed catalogs and dreaming about next year's garden. For our sports fans, the **Super bowl is Sunday, February 4th** and the **Winter Olympics are February 9th -25th.** Of course **February 14th is Valentine's Day and Singles Awareness Day.** Our wine lovers (and you know who you are!) will want to know that **February 25th is Open that Bottle Night.** Our club members are known for being welcoming, considerate and caring to others which we do all year, not just during the **National Random Acts of Kindness week, February 11th-17th.**

February has a lot to celebrate. You don't have to stay inside all month. Thanks to our many volunteers, our club is offering you many fun activities including book club, bridge, canasta, games nights, games day, bowling, shooting, dominoes, rummikub, mah jongg, coffee and conversation, lunch out and our monthly program. Come out and enjoy.

Carol Hoover
President, Newcomers of Catawba Valley



In Memory of Cathy Knoblock



Newcomers lost a longtime member and friend on January 12th when **Cathy Knobloch** died unexpectedly. Her sister Lisa Boff said Cathy died while she and her family were on their way to her niece's wedding in Tennessee. She was 67. We remember Cathy for her positive attitude and smiles, even in the face of her medical problems.

Cathy spent most of her life in New Jersey, where she and husband Artie raised their son Robert and daughter Jennifer. Artie died in 2006 and Jennifer in 2007. Cathy moved to Hickory about 10 years ago after her sister bought land here and Cathy quickly discovered Newcomers.

If you have ever been to one of our club's Games Nights, you probably saw her there. Cathy organized our first Game Night and it has become one of our most popular events.

"You have no idea how much your friendship meant to her," said her sister Lisa, a teacher at Hickory's Oakwood Elementary. "She loved all of you."

Important Information:

The Newcomers Fiscal Year ends on **March 31st**. Annual dues are **\$30.00** per household. If you renew before the end of the fiscal year, there is a **\$5.00 discount**; so you only pay **\$25.00**. You can give your payment to any member of the Board or mail your dues payment to the Newcomers mailing address:

***Newcomers of Catawba Valley
2425 N. Center St. #169
Hickory, NC 28601***

Coming Events:

Monthly Events:

General Meeting: 10:30 a.m. in the old terminal building of Hickory Regional Airport.

The Tree Man

We will hear about, and see exotic woods from **Rocky Mehta** at our monthly meeting on **Wednesday, February 14th**. Rocky owns **West Penn Hardwoods** in **Conover**, the country's largest seller of exotic woods. He has selected woods from Africa, South America and the South Pacific to share with us. Rocky's sprawling warehouse is a must-visit for serious woodworkers. There is even a separate room for wood used to make fine guitars. **Rocky** will tell us about how he finds the trees that end up in his warehouse, and how the wood is used. He will speak at **10:30 a.m. on February 14th at Hickory Regional Airport**. Then at **2:00 p.m. that same day** we will gather at his warehouse, for a tour. If you are not a woodworker now . . . you will want to be, after seeing his amazing stock! Craftsmen use his beautiful wood to make everything from chess pieces to the conference tables used in New York boardrooms.

We need a headcount for the warehouse tour. Please **RSVP** to **Dianne Straley** at dfwhit@gmail.com. **Deadline for the tour is Monday, February 12th**.

Lunch Out:

Hi Folks,

I would like to invite you to the Newcomers next "**Lunch Out**" on **Thursday February 8th**, at **Da Vinci's Italian Ristorante**. We will be meeting at **11:30 a.m.** at **2968 North Center Street in Hickory** (in the Belle Hollow Shopping Center). This has been a local favorite for many years and I know a number of the Newcomers have enjoyed it. You can get directions and advance info on the menu by going to their website at (<http://www.davincishickory.com>).

Please **R.S.V.P.** to bethanycw@charter.net by noon **on Monday, February 5th** so that I can work with the restaurant to ensure we have sufficient seats. I hope you will join us and enjoy great company and conversations.

Chuck Bethany

Coffee & Conversation: Tentatively we will go to the coffee shop at the **Lowes Market at Belle Hollow** at **2 p.m. on Friday, February 23rd** Sheri, ronald.binning@gmail.com

Monthly Games:

Bridge:

Monday, February 5 th	Kathy Rozea
Wednesday, February 7 th	Susan Perkins
Monday, February 12 th	Rose Arant
Monday, February 19 th	Betty Stone
Wednesday, February 21 st	Kathy Rozea

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

Dominoes:

Dominoes is held on the first Tuesday of the month, **February 6th. 6: 00 p.m.** Hickory Regional Airport, 3101 9th Avenue Drive Northwest, Hickory, NC 28601. Make your reservations with **Bob Jones**, itsmerbj@charter.net.

Daytime Canasta:

Daytime Canasta is the Third **Thursday** of each month, **February 15th**. 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

Games Day:

Join us for lunch and games on **Thursday, February 1st, 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. **R.S.V.P.s** must be received no later than **6 p.m. on January 29th**, to **Haydee Pujdak** (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

Games Nights:

Wednesdays, **(#1) February 7th contact Shari**, and **(#2) February 28th 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 and Lori Gervasio at ljgerv@yahoo.com

Rummikub:

Rummikub will be held on **Tuesday, February 20th, at 6 p.m.:** (***At this writing, contact Michele 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.**

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. They offer gun rentals and a wide variety of training classes.

We are currently shooting on, **Tuesday, February 13th at 6:30 p.m.** and on **Thursday, February 22nd at NOON.** **Contact Vince LeGrand for information on shooting legravin@gmail.com or 828-466-8218.**

Bowling:

We bowl at Pin Station in Newton on Business 321 on, **February 1st and February 15th at 6:30 p.m.** **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. 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:

March 28th - The Boys in the Trees: A Memoir by Carly Simon

Discussion Leader: Betty Ann Williams

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 31st**, 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.

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, 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.

Trade Alley Art, LLC, is a cooperative of local artists/artisans who create art for the community and a community for artists. There is a vibrant community of twenty-five fine local artists who create and exhibit fine art under a juried system, presenting a number of media including oil, acrylic, watercolor, gouache, alcohol ink, sculpture, pottery, glass, jewelry, textiles, furniture and more. Trade Alley Art is located just off the square in downtown Hickory and is Newcomers' newest sponsor and is supported by a member!

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:

- Bill and Rose McLaughlin from Thomaston, Connecticut
- Tom and Sharon Hilliker from Asheville, North Carolina

Birthdays:

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

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
Vicki Mullins	02/06	Harriet Bates	03/07
Mike Rozea	02/06	Peggy Meyer	03/07
Susan Fontyn	02/08	Richard P. Taft	03/08
Barbara Laufer	02/11	Kip Kippenhan	03/10
Butch Dunlap	02/15	Janet R. Rudisill	03/10
Peg Baldwin	02/19	Judy Fahrenholz	03/11
Steven Berg	02/20	Lori Gervasio	03/12
Sheila Cooke	02/21	Monty Matthews	03/12
Joyce Walker	02/21	Larry Parker	03/12
Beth Keane	02/28	Carol Hoover	03/13
		Doris Wallace	03/13
		Denise Yow	03/13
		Linda Fedder	03/16
		Brenda Panella	03/20
		Dennis Donahue	03/21
		Greg Gervasio	03/22
		Jim Smith	03/22
		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.

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
Bob Jones

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:

“Smile. Share Hugs. Extend Love.”

