



## **President's Column:**

Hello *Newcomers*,

Our word for this month is *new*. It feels to me that a new spring season is upon us. I am excited to see cherry trees with *new* soft pink flowers, *new* white buds on the Bradford pear trees and *new* yellow forsythia blossoms. Oh joy, I am ready for winter to be over.

This is also the time of year our club elects *new* board members. Please come out and vote at our Program and General meeting on March 14, 2018, 10:30AM at the Hickory Airport. We are excited to see some *new* names on the slate. We will also have a great speaker this month to tell us about the hospital built in just days to help the many children that contracted polio. Learn about Hickory's heroic efforts.

I am excited that we have *new* and longtime members bringing ideas to the table for our club to enjoy. *New* special events this year will be a Magician Show in May and an elegant evening of dinner, dancing and donations for charity Gala on Friday August 17. Go ahead ladies and get a *new* dress. We will host a trip to see *Chihuly at Biltmore*, a *new* glass art exhibition in Biltmore's historic gardens, and the first garden exhibition of Dale Chihuly's works in North Carolina. Dazzling in daylight, the exhibition takes on an entirely *new* dimension when viewed after nightfall.

Newcomers' fiscal year ends on March 31. With a *new* year, comes a time to *renew* you 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

If you are a *new* member, we welcome you to enjoy our many club offerings weekly and monthly. If you are a longtime member, I thank you for participating and helping to keep our club relevant and thriving while enjoying *new* adventures and welcoming *new* friends to our club.

Carol Hoover, President  
Newcomers of Catawba Valley



## Important Information:

### **2018-2019 Dues**

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.*

### Coming Events:

#### Monthly Events:

**Program and General Meeting:** Wednesday March 14. 10:30AM. Hickory Airport

Board Elections:

It's time to elect Officers for the 2018-2019 Newcomers of Catawba Valley Board. During the March General Meeting, a vote will be held to determine who will serve on the Board from April 2018 to March 2019. Below is a list of current nominees for each position. A ballot listing these nominations will be provided to all members in attendance and the ballot will allow for write-in voting (voting for a member not listed on the ballot). Please be sure to attend this important meeting to cast your vote!

#### **Office**

President  
Vice President  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Past President  
Director (vote for 4)

Write ins from the floor

#### **Nominee**

Carol Hoover  
Joe Paussa  
Vince LeGrand  
Brenda Ireland  
Dianne Straley  
Shari Kidd, Adra Kryszczuk,  
Mary Bucy, Dale Pfingst

## Program:

*Professor Richard Eller of CVCC will talk to us about the polio epidemic that flattened Hickory in 1944. The community built a hospital in about three days to shelter and treat kids who had polio. Faced with one of the worse outbreaks in the country, the community converted a camp into a hospital in less than 60 hours and begin admitting patients. History professor Richard Eller, who teaches at Catawba Valley Community College, will show a film about the efforts.*

It's an amazing story about our community that you won't want to miss.

## Lunch Out:

Hi Folks,

The Newcomers Monthly Lunch Out for **March** will be held on the **8<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.** at one of our great local restaurants, **Fourk Restaurant**. This is a relative new and popular restaurant in our area serving delicious food that I am sure you will enjoy. I invite you all to join us at **Fourk**, which is located at **1410 4<sup>th</sup> ST Dr. NW # 103, in Hickory**. You can review their website (<http://www.fourkrestaurant.com>) to get directions and to see the delicious items on their menu. Because of the size of our group, they may limit our menu to a smaller number of items. I will pass the info along when I receive it.

Please send your **RSVP** to [bethanycw@charter.net](mailto:bethanycw@charter.net) by noon on **March 5<sup>th</sup>** so that I can remind the restaurant that we are coming. I hope you will join us and enjoy great food, company, conversations, as well as help support one of our great local restaurants. See you soon.

Chuck Bethany

**Coffee & Conversation:** We will go to **Cornerstone Bakery on Hwy 127 on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm**. They have a nice selection of fresh pastries, as well as coffee and sodas. Sheri, [ronald.binning@gmail.com](mailto:ronald.binning@gmail.com)

## Monthly Games:

### Bridge:

Monday	Mar. 5th	Margie Dickey
Wednesday	Mar. 7th	CANCELLED
Monday	Mar. 12th	Karen Schafer
Monday	Mar. 19th	Margie Dickey
Wednesday	Mar. 21st	Norma Leimbach

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.

### ***Dominoes:***

Dominoes is held on the first Tuesday of the month, **March 6<sup>th</sup>. 6: 00 p.m.** Hickory Regional Airport, 3101 9th Avenue Drive Northwest, Hickory, NC 28601. This is a fun game for ALL ~ male and female, beginner or experienced player, young and old. Make your reservations with **Bob Jones**, [itsmerbj@charter.net](mailto:itsmerbj@charter.net).

### ***Canasta and Lunch:***

Daytime Canasta is the Third **Thursday** of each month, **March 15<sup>th</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)

### ***Games Day:***

Join us for lunch and games on **Thursday, March 1<sup>st</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.

**R.S.V.P.s** must be received no later than **6 p.m. on February 26<sup>th</sup>**, 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) March 7<sup>th</sup> (contact Shari)** and **(#2) March 21<sup>st</sup> (contact Lori)** at **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 nights 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, March 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6 p.m.:** **(at Susan Reese's house).** 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 **Susan Reese at [sereese62@gmail.com](mailto:sereese62@gmail.com) by 10 p.m.** the night before the game so that she is 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. March shooting dates are, **Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** and on **Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 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, **March \_\_\_\_ and March \_\_\_\_ 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:**

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

Discussion Leader: Betty Ann Williams

Simon was the first artist in history to win a Grammy Award, an Academy Award and a Golden Globe Award, for her song "Let the River Run" from the movie *Working Girl*. Her memoir is surprisingly candid as she recalls a childhood enriched by music and culture, but also one shrouded in secrets that would eventually tear her family apart. She captures moments of creative inspiration, the sparks of songs, and the stories behind writing "Anticipation" and "We Have No Secrets" among many others. Romantic entanglements with some of the most famous men of the day fueled her confessional lyrics, as well as the unraveling of her storybook marriage to James Taylor.

*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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 [bettysch69@gmail.com](mailto:bettysch69@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 'Sponsors' tab on the Newcomers website.

Welcome to the newest sponsor for Newcomers of Catawba Valley, **Hickory Real Estate Group**! This dynamic group of 22 agents has grown in eight years to the top non-franchise real estate firm in the Hickory, Newton, Conover area with a focus on how to best serve their clients not just through their marketing but through the relationships formed with clients. "Our goal is to provide our clients with a smooth buying and selling experience that is based heavily on maximizing the use of technology, open and honest communication, and expert negotiation."

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:**

- Anna and Walter Murawski from Jersey City, NJ
- Nancy and Bill Jones from Winston Salem, NC
- Elaine Kalber from Athens, GA

## **Birthdays:**

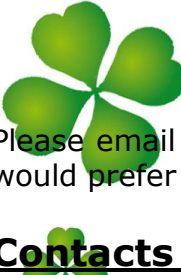
***Wishing all our Members born in MARCH, the Happiest of Birthdays!!!***

### **MARCH**



Shirley Strickland	03/01
Chuck Bethany	03/03
Helen Reed	03/06
Harriet Bates	03/07
Peggy Meyer	03/07
Richard P. Taft	03/08
Kip Kippenhan	03/10
Janet R. Rudisill	03/10
Judy Fahrenholz	03/11
Lori Gervasio	03/12
Monty Matthews	03/12
Larry Parker	03/12
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

### **APRIL**



Andy Bucy	04/01
Carol Poppe	04/01
Judy Dostall	04/04
Mike Caudill	04/05
Sharon Hilliker	04/06
Mike Flo	04/08
John Almeida	04/09
Harold W. Mason	04/09
Don Baldwin	04/10
Margie Dickey	04/10
Donna McDermott	04/10
William Waldron	04/11
Bob Jones	04/15
Dianne Straley	04/17
Joe Durand	04/18
Lisa Burel	04/20
Lori Martin	04/22
Chad Burel	04/26
Naomi East	04/27
Susan Perkins	04/27
Bert Perkins	04/30
Susan Turner	04/30

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**  
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:**

May the dreams  
you hold dearest  
be those which  
*come true*

And the kindness  
you spread  
*keep returning*  
*to you*

