

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

April 2018

President's Column:

Hello Newcomers,

Spring is here and it's the start of a new year for our club. I am delighted to welcome new board members Brenda Ireland, Dale Pfingst, and Mary Bucy as they join our team with Dianne Straley, Joe Paussa, Vince LeGrand, Adra Kryszczuk, Shari Kidd and myself.

We are fortunate that Denise Bukovan will continue to manage our press releases. She has done a great job getting the word out about our club. A giant thank you is owed to Susan Reese for producing our newsletter for the past two years as she hands the job over to Brenda Ireland. We are grateful to Carol Reising for her work with our sponsors and coaching our next coordinator. I am pleased to announce that new member Christi Austin will work with long-time member Betty Swartz to manage Members Helping Members.

We have a very strong Special Events Committee this year that will be chaired by Francine Gissy. It's a dynamite team including Kevin McCutcheon, Sharon Snellings, Dottie Demarest, Patsy Lang, Audrey Rozzelle, Cindy Donahue, Haydee Pujdak, Dianne Straley, Shari Kidd and Mary Ellen Glover. If you have event, activity or trip idea please contact any member of this team.

I want to personally thank all of our games coordinators over this past year as we have added more games days and shuffled their positions around. Hats off to Shari Kidd, Haydee Pujdak, Lori Gervasio, Martha Conrad, Hedy Paussa, Adra Kryszczuk, and Chris Beckom.

Our club offers so many diverse offerings because of our volunteers. We are growing and thriving as a club due to our volunteers running activities weekly and monthly. Thank you to Gloria Berg, Sue Asp, Bob Jones, Cheri Stewart, Ed Stewart, Sheri Binning, Vince LeGrand, Dianne Straley, Michele LeGrand, Carol Sawicki and Chuck Bethany.

We are currently seeking someone to chair the book club. It's not a difficult job and of course we all support each other. Please consider stepping up and let me know if you can help. I am proud to serve one more year as the President of our club. Thank you for your vote of confidence. I enjoy the work however there is value in bringing in more voices, fresh eyes and new ideas to our club. I encourage everyone to be part of the action. I also want to thank you for the tremendous amount of support you have given me, especially these past six months. I could not have done it without you.

Congratulations to our new volunteers and thank you to all members. You make our club remarkable.

Carol Hoover,
President, Newcomers Club of Catawba Valley



Important Information:

Women's Resource Center is seeking volunteers!

Life transitions can happen suddenly. When these changes occur, the impact can result in not knowing where to turn for help. Women's Resource Center (WRC) offers assistance to women in Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, and Catawba Counties. By volunteering at our reception desk for 2 hours a week, you will get the opportunity to be the first point of contact for women reaching out to WRC. As part of the team, volunteers are trained on local resources and are empowered to provide immediate support to women in our community through resources, support, and affirmation to those in transition.

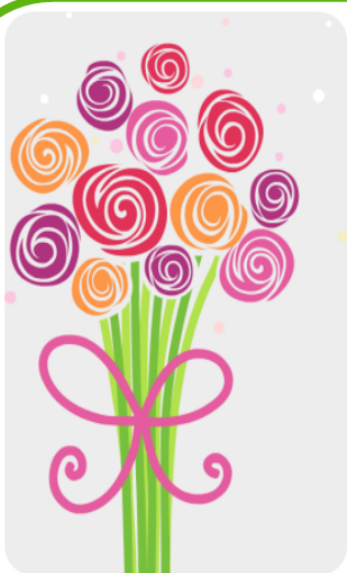
Our volunteer application is available in person at Women's Resource Center or online at wrchickory.org.

If you have questions about volunteering please contact Kelley Hayward at [\(828\) 322-6333](tel:8283226333) or email communitysupport@wrchickory.org. WRC is located at 125 3rd Street NE, Hickory, NC 28601.



CHANGING LIVES
one woman at a time

Coming Events:



Save the Date

Newcomers Summer Soirée

A Special Evening of Dining, Dancing, and Donating

Friday, August 17, 2018

Catawba Country Club

Details to follow

Monthly Events:

Program and General Meeting:

Many of our retired members have discovered that time off the clock and out of the office has given them more opportunities to explore and learn.

If that sounds like you, come to our monthly meeting on **April 11th** to hear about the nonprofit **Road Scholar** organization that makes learning an adventure.

Club members and Road Scholar veterans **Louise Judd** and **Linda Monroe** will tell us about trips they have taken over the years with this fascinating organization that reaches more than 100,000 seniors annually.

Road Scholar, formerly known as Elder Hostel, offers 5,500 trips annually to all 50 states and 150 countries. "We are explorers, adventures and students of the world," the organization says. Learn more at www.roadscholar.org and come hear stories from **Linda and Louise** at **10:30 a.m. April 11th** at the Hickory Regional Airport. They will have dozens and dozens of trip catalogues to give away.

- Dianne Straley

Lunch Out:

Hi Folks,

It's April and time for a field trip to the Court Street Grille in Lincolnton for the next Newcomers Monthly Lunch Out. **April's** lunch at this very popular local restaurant will be held on the **12th at 11:30 a.m.** This popular restaurant serves a wide variety of delicious food that I am sure you will enjoy. I invite you all to join us at the ***Court Street Grille which is located at 113 W. Court Sq. in Lincolnton.*** You can review their website (www.courtstreetgrille.com) to get directions and to see the delicious items on their menu.

Please send your **RSVP** to bethanycw@charter.net by noon on **April 9th** 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 Copperbean Coffee House, 1525 2nd Street NE, Hickory, NC on **Friday, April 27th at 2 p.m.** Let Sheri Binning know if you can come or just show up, ronald.binning@gmail.com

Monthly Games:

Bridge:

Monday, April 2nd	Helen Woodyard
Wednesday, April 4th	Carol Parker
Monday, April 9th	Kathy Bethany
Monday, April 16th	Susan Perkins
Wednesday, April 18th	Kathy Durand

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

Dominoes:

Due to scheduling conflicts, there will **not** be Dominoes in April. The next Dominoes will actually be **Tuesday May 1st**. Thanks, Bob

Canasta and Lunch:

Daytime Canasta is the Third **Thursday** of each month, **April 19th**. Lunch and canasta begins 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, April 5th, 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 April 2nd**, 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

Our mah jongg group celebrated the end of the 2017 playing season on March 23 with a potluck party and lots of wacky games. We threw the usual rules out the window and made up our own. It was our last hurrah as we wait for April 1st and the arrival of our 2018 card with its new challenges. We wore our best Hawaiian shirts and played our games to Jimmy Buffett music - enhanced with adult beverages.

Great news to report. The following six players completed every hand on the 2017 card during the last 12 months - a record for our club:

- ✚ Virginia Charlton
- ✚ Linda Fedder
- ✚ Dianne Straley
- ✚ Chris Beckom
- ✚ Martha Conrad
- ✚ Dottie Demarest

Games Nights:

Wednesdays, **(#1) April 11th (contact Shari)** and **(#2) April 25th (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 and Lori Gervasio at ljgerv@yahoo.com

Rummikub:

Rummikub will be held on **Tuesday, April 17th, at 6 p.m.** at the home of **Adra Kryszczuk**, 609 41st Avenue Court NW, Hickory. 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. Please contact Michele LeGrand if you have questions, exermom@gmail.com. The hostess will provide snacks and drinks. Everyone is welcome! Please **R.S.V.P. to Adra at adraellen@yahoo.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. They offer gun rentals and a wide variety of training classes. April shooting dates are, **Tuesday, April 10th at 6:30 p.m.** and on **Thursday, April 26th at NOON.** *These will be the last bowling sessions until autumn.*

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, **April 5th and April 19th 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:

May 23 – The Japanese Lover by Isabel Allende

Discussion Leader: Louise Judd In 1939, as Poland falls under the shadow of the Nazis, young Alma Belasco's parents send her away to live in safety with an aunt and uncle in San Francisco. There, as the rest of the world goes to war, she encounters Ichimei Fukuda, the quiet and gentle son of the family's Japanese gardener. Unnoticed by those around them, a tender love affair begins to blossom. Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the two are cruelly pulled apart as Ichimei and his family, like thousands of other Japanese Americans are declared enemies and forcibly relocated to internment camps run by the United States government. Throughout their lifetimes, Alma and Ichimei reunite again and again, but theirs is a love that they are forever forced to hide from the world. Decades later, Alma is nearing the end of her long and eventful life. Irina Bazili, a care worker struggling to come to terms with her own troubled past, meets the elderly woman and her grandson, Seth, at San Francisco's charmingly eccentric Lark House nursing home. As Irina and Seth forge a friendship, they become intrigued by a series of mysterious gifts and letters sent to Alma, eventually learning about Ichimei and this extraordinary secret passion that has endured for nearly seventy years.

*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:

2nd quarter charity, **Bethlehem Food Pantry** (operating out of the Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church in Bethlehem):

The pantry serves over 850 families a month providing canned goods, frozen meats, fresh vegetables and health kits all from donations! Anything you can donate is appreciated!

Thank you, Joe Pausa

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.

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 'Sponsors' tab on the Newcomers website.

Welcome to the newest sponsor for Newcomers of Catawba Valley, **Lake Hickory Adventures**. Member Chad Burel's company offers dinner, parties, and private charter boat cruises on Lake Hickory in Hickory, North Carolina. Serving over 350,000 people in a four county, 2,000 square mile area of the Catawba Valley, Lake Hickory Adventures has something for everyone.

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

Outings to Cline's!

Two back-to-back shopping trips to Cabarrus County to explore Cline's Country Antiques: Friday, April 13, and Saturday, April 14. Dianne Straley will lead the April 13 trip and Kathy Rozea will handle April 14. Cline's is a sprawling collection of yard art, antiques, old signs, toys, license tags and everything else Don Cline can cram into his 7 acres of memorabilia. Folks with trucks or vans will be especially welcomed on our trip!

On both days, April 13th and April 14th, we will meet at 10 a.m. off I-40's Exit 32. Let's meet in the far corner of the Wal-Mart parking lot that is closest to Burger King. The drive to Mount Pleasant is about 1 hour and 40 minutes.

If you want to go Friday, April 13, email Dianne Straley at dfwhit@gmail.com.

If you want to go Saturday, April 14, email Kathy Rozea at krr510@yahoo.com.

Welcome New Members:

- Carol and Ed Dodzian from Florida
- Karen and John Dybus from Dallas, Texas
- Tim Alberts and JoAnn Kahl from Ohio
 - Debbie and Joe Longo

Birthdays:

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

APRIL		MAY	
Andy Bucy	04/01	Janis Goonan	05/01
Carol Poppe	04/01	Nancie Jaeger	05/03
Judy Dostall	04/04	Robert Leimbach	05/03
Mike Caudill	04/05	Al Osbahr	05/04
Sharon Hilliker	04/06	Carol Dodzian	05/09
Mike Flo	04/08	Robert Sykes	05/11
John Almeida	04/09	Janet Herman	05/12
Harold W. Mason	04/09	Anna Murawski	05/12
Don Baldwin	04/10	Ray Lunn	05/17
Margie Dickey	04/10	Elaine L. Kalber	05/20
Donna McDermott	04/10	Tecky Kenny	05/25
William Waldron	04/11	Robyn Wolgemuth	05/26
Bob Jones	04/15	Marc Fedder	05/27
Dianne Straley	04/17	Ric Johnsen	05/28
Joe Durand	04/18	Janis Goonan	05/01
Lisa Burel	04/20	Nancie Jaeger	05/03
Lori Martin	04/22	Robert Leimbach	05/03
Chad Burel	04/26	Al Osbahr	05/04
Naomi East	04/27	Carol Dodzian	05/09
Susan Perkins	04/27	Robert Sykes	05/11
Bert Perkins	04/30	Janet Herman	05/12
Susan Turner	04/30	Anna Murawski	05/12

Please email Brenda Ireland at brenheart@gmail.com if your birthday is not listed or if you would prefer that your birthday not be listed.

Contacts & Contributors

Officers, Directors, Activity Chairs and Committees

Officers	Position
Carol Hoover	President
Joe Paussa	Vice President
Vince LeGrand	Treasurer
Brenda Ireland	Secretary
Dianne Straley	Past President
Directors	
Adra Kryszczuk	
Shari Kidd	
Dale Pfingst	
Mary Bucy	
Activities	Chair
Book Club	Sue Asp, Betty Schwartz
Bowling	Vince LeGrand
Bridge	Gloria Berg
Charity Coordinator	Joe Paussa
Coffee & Conversation	Sheri Binning
Dominoes	Bob Jones, Cheri & Ed Stewart
Events Committee	Francine Gissy (chair) , Dottie Demarest, Cindy Donahue, Mary Ellen Glover, Shari Kidd, Patsy Lang, Kevin McCutcheon, Haydee Pujdak, Audrey Rozzelle, Sharon Snelling and Dianne Straley.
Daytime Canasta	Chris Beckom, Hedy Paussa
Games Day	Haydee Pujdak
Games Night #1	Shari Kidd, Martha Conrad
Games Night #2	Lori Gervasio, Shari Kidd
Items of Interest	Bob Jones
Historian	Connie Yokum
Hospitality	Michele LeGrand, Carol Sawicki
Lunch out	Chuck Bethany
Mahjongg	Dianne Straley
Members Helping Members	Betty Schwartz, Christi Austin
Newsletter Editor	Brenda Ireland
Programs	Dianne Straley
Publicity	Denise Bukovan
Rummikub	Michele LeGrand
Shooting Practice	Vince LeGrand
Charities	Joe Paussa
Sponsors	Dale Pfingst
Webmaster Team	Greg Gervasio, (site), Adra Kryszczuk (calendar)
	and Michele LeGrand (roster)

Closing thoughts:



"Behold, my friends, the spring is come; the earth has gladly received the embraces of the sun, and we shall soon see the results of their love!"

Sitting Bull