



**NEWCOMERS OF CATAWBA
VALLEY**

**2425 North Center Street #169,
Hickory NC 28601
www.newcomersofcv.com**

May 2018

President's Column

Hello Newcomers,

In the past three years I have learned that our newcomer members love to play games. We enjoy Bridge, Canasta, Dominoes, Rummikub, Mah Jongg and Bowling. Lots of members also play Cribbage, Poker, Hearts and Euchre.

Often a new member will ask "which way do you play here?" It's a great question. There are so many versions of dominos including traditional, Mexican train and chicken foot. The internet is full of variations that are played differently across the country

Our canasta games have different variations during the day and evenings. Different rules make things harder or earn players more points or mix it up for fun and themes. I recently played a game of canasta called "Maine style." Now there is a new version sweeping through the club called "Samba." It's a fun and challenging variation of canasta. Thanks to members for bringing this new "Florida style" canasta game and teaching members two at a time until now we have 22 people hooked.

So as we continue to learn, play and create new and fun variations of our games we create our very own "Hickory style". If you are not a games player yet, we welcome you to come and learn any of our games. Our "Hickory style" always includes welcoming beginners, patient teachers, fun-loving variations, making new friends, good conversation and fun.

I hope you will enjoy joining us this month for any of our games or fabulous events all done with our signature "Hickory style."

Carol Hoover
President,
Newcomers Club of Catawba Valley



Monthly Events

MAY Program and General Meeting:

Before the English arrived in Roanoke Island and Jamestown, Spanish explorers were here outside Hickory. In 1566, the Spanish landed at what is present day Parris Island, S.C., and set out to find an overland route to Mexico and its treasures of silver. Conquistador Juan Pardo followed the trail of De Soto from a generation before through present-day South Carolina, along the course of the Wateree and Congaree rivers, entering present-day North Carolina along the Catawba River.

Heavy snow stopped their progress in 1567 in today's Burke County, where they built a stockade – Fort San Juan.



Five years ago, archaeologists discovered signs of a moat and other remains the Fort San Juan.

On Wednesday, **May 9**, archaeologist Melissa Timo will tell us about the dig and the early explorers to our area.

Our monthly meeting is on **May 9th** and starts at 10:30 a.m. at Hickory Regional Airport. Come join us and learn how you can join the dig!

Lunch Out

After last month's great field trip to Lincolnton, **May** Newcomers Monthly Lunch Out is going local, to the Wood Fired Pizza Restaurant in Hickory. Wood is a local popular restaurant that serves a wide variety of delicious food. Please join us at the **Wood Fired Pizza Restaurant** (previously known as Bistro 127) located at **2039 N. Center St., Hickory**. We are meeting on **May 10th at 11:30 am**. You can review their website (<http://wood.pizza/>) to get directions and to see the menu. Given the anticipated large size of our group, we may have a limited menu. Please send your **R.S.V.P.** to Chuck Bethany at bethanycw@charter.net by noon May 7th so that he can remind the restaurant that we are coming.

Coffee & Conversation

We will be going to Old World Baking Company, 149 Main Street W, Valdese, NC 28690 on **Friday, May 25th at 2 p.m.** They have daily specials, check their Facebook page, <https://orders.cake.net/10935717> Oldworldbakingcompany.com R.S.V.P. to Sheri Binning at ronaldbinning@gmail.com or just show up!

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, May 8th at 6:30 p.m.** and on **Thursday, May 24th at NOON**. **Contact Vince LeGrand for information on shooting legravin@gmail.com or 828-466-8218.**

VAN FLEET AVIATION

Back in Business after the Tornado Celebration!

Thursday May 10 at 8:30 a.m. Let's all join Susan VanFleet at the Yount Terminal Building at the Hickory Airport as she welcomes Blue Belle Skyhawk125S, her new Cessna 172 to Hickory!

She is a strong work horse that Susan purchased in Texas. "I am confident she will continue in the flight path of bringing joy to scenic and photo passengers and in helping produce pilots for our nation. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you!" Susan thanks all of you for being so supportive, caring and wonderful. Your prayers, well wishes and concern were so appreciated and needed when Rosebud, her Cessna 172, was destroyed by the Tornado. She was her beautiful partner for 16 years. *COWBOY BOOTS and COWBOY HATS optional attire!*



Hickory Air Museum Event MAY 19th

The Hickory Aviation Museum/Sabre Society of NC will be celebrating the arrival of a US Navy Lockheed P-3 Submarine Hunter on Saturday, May 19th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Our keynote speaker will be US Navy Vice Admiral Walter B. Massenburg, Retired who has years of experience with the P-3.

The museum has 15 aircraft on display. The P-3 will be open that day so you can get inside and take pictures. We will also display for the first time a Navy XF-15C. This aircraft is the only one in the world. Three were built in the late forties and this is the only surviving one. Our F-14 cockpit will be open so you or your children or grandchildren can actually sit in the pilot's seat and take pictures.

The Crosswind Cafe will be offering hamburgers and hot dogs with soft drinks during our celebration.

The Hickory Aviation Museum is a real jewel for the city of Hickory, Burke and Catawba County and the Catawba Valley. It has the largest museum of military aircraft in North Carolina. Each one has its own history. It is staffed by dedicated volunteers (always looking for more!) and lives on donations only. **We all look forward to seeing you here on May 19th.**

Monthly Games

Bridge:

Wednesday, May 2nd
Monday, May 7th
Monday, May 14th
Wednesday, May 16th
Monday, May 21st

Susan Perkins
Gloria Berg
Norma Leimbach
Phyllis Kane
Carol Parker

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

Canasta and Lunch:

Daytime Canasta is the Third **Thursday** of each month, **May 17th**. 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 Brenda Ireland on her cell A.S.A.P. at 828-639-2881. To join in the fun, **contact Brenda at brenheart@gmail.com**

Dominoes:

Tuesday May 1st at the **Hickory Airport at 6 p.m.** Plan to arrive by 5:45. Dinner will be served promptly at 6 p.m. in order to allow us finish by 9 p.m. Once again, its time to play Dominoes. Whether you've played before, or want to learn, come and enjoy an evening of fun . The dinner menu includes Chicken Pot Pie, Salad, Rolls, iced tea, coffee, and water will be provided. The cost is \$7 per person, plus \$2 for the "kitty" (optional). Players A-J will provide desserts. R.S.V.P. to **Shari Kidd at kidd915sl@gmail.com**

Games Day:

Join us for lunch and games on **Thursday, May 3rd, 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 30th**, to **Haydee Pujdak** (hpujdak@gmail.com)

Games Nights:

Wednesdays, **(#1) May 9th (contact Shari)** and **(#2) May 23rd (contact Lori)** at **5:30 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 SERVED PROMPTLY AT 6 p.m., 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!

We also have a new style of Canasta coming soon, called "SAMBA". About 22 members have learned so far.

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

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

Rummikub:

Rummikub will be held on **Tuesday, May 15th, at 6 p.m. and the location is to be announced**. 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!

Bowling:

Newcomers Bowling has ended for the 2017/2018 season. Bowling will resume in the Fall. We bowl at Pin Station in Newton on Business 321 **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 COORDINATORS: Mary Bucy at mebucy@hotmail.com and Donna McDermott at mcnona5@gmail.com .

Making a Difference:

Charities:

2nd Quarter Charity is **Bethlehem Food Pantry**

Located at Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church, 9379 NC HWY 127, Hickory, NC 28601 phone, 828-495-8251

The Pantry serves 185 families and 600 individuals in Alexander County. The Pantry has needs for canned corn/green beans/peas, dry beans (not commercial sizes), and dishwasher detergents and laundry soap.

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.

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, **Select Tech Inc.** Select Tech provides in-store and onsite services for residential and business customers. Their Mission Statement on their website reads: "To provide the best IT Support in a friendly and professional manner to maximize the value to our customers." Those words are something you can count on as a Select Tech Inc. customer. All of our work is 100% satisfaction guaranteed. At our location we repair over 2000 PCs, mobile devices (iPhone/Android), iPad's, Android tablets and Macs a year. It would be our pleasure to speak with you and support any IT related issue you may have.

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

Welcome New Members:

- Nancy Prushinski from Morganton, NC

Birthdays:

Wishing all our Members Born in MAY, the HAPPIEST of Birthdays!!

Birthdays in May

Janis Goonan	05/01
Nancie Jaeger	05/03
Robert Leimbach	05/03
Al Osbahr	05/04
Carol Dodzian	05/09
Robert Sykes	05/11
Anna Murawski	05/12
Elaine L. Kalber	05/20
Tecky Kenny	05/25
Robyn Wolgemuth	05/26
Marc Fedder	05/27
Ric Johnsen	05/28

Birthdays in June

Neil Forrest	06/02
Amanda Black	06/03
Bill McLaughlin	06/04
Thomas Panella	06/04
Norma Leimbach	06/08
Verna McDowell	06/08
Stan Bumgarner	06/11
Kris Bowman	06/13
Jeff McDermott	06/13
Betty Schwartz	06/13
Ken Pujdak	06/17
June Chalk	06/18
Mary Murgo	06/18
Chris McCutcheon	06/20
George Beckom	06/21
Doak Walker	06/21
Laurie Johnsen	06/22
Bill Jones	06/22
Gloria Berg	06/24
Dennis Valkanoff	06/24
Bev Forrest	06/26
Sandy Sigmon	06/27
Carol Earl	06/30

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.

ON THE ROAD: Day Trips to EXPLORE NORTH CAROLINA

May 24th VISIT TO CHARLOTTE - Departure time and Itinerary TBA

Save the Date

June 15th, Friday Chihuly at Biltmore

CHIHULY at Biltmore basic details; more will follow as we get to the end of May: There will be two trips available Day and Evening:

Chihuly Days is part of the regular ticket and is \$47.08/person with a group of 10 or more. If tickets are purchased 7 days or more in advance, there is a discount. Pass holders are welcome to join us as well. Meet at Cracker Barrel in [Morganton \(135 Bush Dr, Exit 105 off I40\)](#) at 9 a.m. for breakfast and we'll leave there by 10:00 a.m. for Biltmore. The house is open until 5 p.m. and the gardens until 6 p.m. It's an hour and fifteen minute drive from Cracker Barrel to Biltmore. We'll plan on entering the gardens at noon.



We can carpool from Cracker Barrel. You should carpool with a group who decides how long they want to stay and whether they want to tour Biltmore House after the gardens or only the gardens. We will plan to tour the gardens and Chihuly Exhibit at noon and enter Biltmore House at 2 p.m. We could do a late lunch/early dinner at the Stable Cafe at 4 p.m. then head home.

Chihuly NIGHTS: Experience Chihuly Nights for \$50.29/person with a group of 10 or more. This price is for non-members AND Pass holders. Depart Hickory at 6 p.m. Entry to the exhibit is scheduled for 8 p.m. We will leave Biltmore at 10 p.m. with a return to Hickory by 11:30 p.m. Ticket includes Chihuly Night exhibit, tour of Biltmore house first floor, wine bar and live music.

R.S.V.P.: Please email - tara.smith@allentate.com by May 21st if you'll be joining us. Also, let me know if you are a pass holder or if you'll be participating in the group rate. If we don't get 10 folks who aren't pass holders we won't be able to get group rates and the 7 day advance price is \$60.99. I will need all money for the group tickets by Friday, May 25th. You can send me a check, or use PayPal or Venmo to send the money.

Save the Date

Newcomers of Catawba Valley

Summer Soirée

An Evening of Dining, Dancing, and Donating

Catawba Country Club
1154 Country Club Road, Newton
Friday, August 17, 2018
6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.



Members - \$30 per person
Guests - \$35 per person
Includes meal, tax, and tip
Cash Bar

"Bring a check and help a child!"

Teen Christmas serves 400 low income teens each year. Please make your checks payable to the United Way and designate Teen Christmas on the "for" line.

Advocacy Centers provide services for children who are victims of child abuse and neglect. Donations may be made payable to the organization in your county:

- ❖ Alexander County – Dove House
- ❖ Burke County – Gingerbread House of Southmountain Children and Family Services
- ❖ Caldwell County – Robin's Nest
- ❖ Catawba County - Children's Advocacy and Protection Center

Look for more details in the June newsletter and in a flyer to come soon!

Contacts and 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	
Mary Bucy	
Shari Kidd	
Adra Kryszczuk	
Dale Pfingst	
Activities	Chair
Book Club	Mary Bucy and Donna McDermott
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
Mah Jongg	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)



Last, but not least....some closing thoughts.....

The greatest weakness lies in giving up.

The most certain way to succeed.....is to always try just one more time.

-T. Edison