



**Newcomers of Catawba
Valley
2525 North Center Street
#169
Hickory, NC 28601**

www.newcomersofcv.com

President's Column

Hello Newcomers,

Wow, I love this club! Let me tell you why.

One Sunday night I got on the phone and made numerous calls asking for help with the holiday party. Everyone said "yes, I will help." Wow, I felt so supported.

A few months ago, I heard from games coordinators that they needed more subs. They met as a group and suggested we form teams. We asked games attendees if they could be of help. The results? Nine more club members have offered to serve on games teams joining six others. Wow, I love this club! Starting in January our new games teams will be the following: 1st Thursday Daytime - Lori Gervasio, Linda and Royce Dunn; 3rd Thursday Daytime - Chris and George Beckom, Hedy Paussa, Rick Wagman; 2nd Wednesday Night - Shari Kidd, Martha Conrad, Mary Ellen Glover, Audrey Rozzelle; 4th Wednesday Night - Patsy Lang, Janet Rudisill, Zig and Adra Kryszczuk. Thank you to these members!

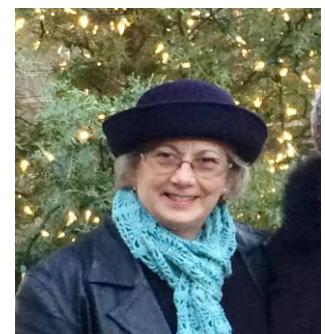
You may recall that I put out a call for a new web master. I am excited that Adra Kryszczuk offered to become our new web master starting in January. We greatly appreciate Greg Gervasio's work to rebuild and maintain our web site for the past year after our web master, my husband Brian Hoover died. It was a lot of work and so many members have no idea what goes into such a project. Greg has provided a great service to our club, thank you!

Now it's time for our Newcomers Club's nominating committee to recruit Board members. Many of our board members have served four to eight years so it's time for others to step up. It's healthy for a club to have different members serve on the board for fresh eyes, fresh ideas and to avoid cliques. Our nominating committee is Sharon Snellings, Hedy Paussa and Francine Gissy. New board positions will start in April 2019. Please contact them and say "yes, I will help."

This year at the holiday party we will celebrate and recognize our many volunteers that run activities, trips and special events. Did you know we have had more than 90 members volunteer over the past three years? Wow I love this club!

As a volunteer club, everyone's help is important. If you have not stepped up yet we need you. Your volunteer contributions - big or small - will help our club thrive. I hope to hear from you soon. Thank you.

Carol Hoover, President
Newcomers Club of Catawba Valley



Membership Dues – 2019

Beginning in fiscal year April 1, 2019, the annual membership dues will be changed to individual memberships: \$15 per person per year. The early membership renewal discount will be \$2.50 making it \$12.50 per person per year. What a bargain!

To be fair to all our members supporting the operations of our club, please note the following long-standing rule in our by-laws: "All potential new members are welcome to attend any event for a period of one month from attending their first event. The monthly General meeting shall not count as an event."

Please note that if other persons in a household are not members, they may come as a guest to **one** special event and will be required to pay a higher admission fee. The additional membership fee of \$12.50 or \$15.00 for other persons in a household will still be a good bargain to allow them to attend more than one special event, trip or activity in a given year.

The Board will be monitoring the budget to determine if the new dues amounts are appropriate to meet the fiscal needs of our club. If not, the dues amounts will be reconsidered for 2020.



Monthly Events

December Program and General Meeting

Our December speaker, N.C. Senator Andy Wells, will talk about legislation he has introduced to create a state park along 35 miles of the Henry Fork and Jacob Fork rivers. Senator Wells will speak at our monthly meeting, at **10:30 a.m. Wednesday, December 12th**, at Hickory Regional Airport. His legislation would connect the two rivers and would have several new and existing canoe access points and would join current parks along the two rivers. Senator Wells represents Catawba and Alexander counties in the state legislature.

DIY Christmas Cookies to Decorate

Immediately following the General Meeting there will be a **DIY Cookie Decorating Party**. Express your creativity by decorating cookies to be given to **the Viewmont Brian Center**. **Members bring cookies** and the club will provide decorating materials. If baking is your passion, join the fun and share decorating tips with members. Cost: \$5.00 per person. Contact: Mary Ellen Glover at meglove4871@gmail.com.

Coffee and Conversation

An informal gathering over a cup of coffee, tea, etc., and a pastry or meal. We are introducing Newcomers to the different coffee and tea places in the area. We'll take a trip to downtown Lenoir on **Friday, December 14th at 1:00 p.m.** to Highland Coffee House, 113 Main St NW, Lenoir. Every business in downtown sets out their own Christmas Tree. It's quite a sight to see! Let Sheri Binning know if you can come or just show up. Email ronald.binning@gmail.com

Lunch Out

This month we are dining at a new local restaurant in downtown Hickory called the Hart & Soul Café. The Hart & Soul Café serves breakfast and lunch and has been open for about two months and already has attracted a great following. The owners Rob and Theresa Hart identify their style as "upscale comfort food but at an affordable price. Besides their basic menu (check it out on Facebook) they also have daily specials that are listed on the wall as you enter. We will meet on **December 13th at 11:30 a.m.** at Hart & Soul Café, located at 25 4th Street SW, Hickory. Please **R.S.V.P.** to Chuck Bethany at bethanycw@charter.net by noon on December 10th so that he can remind the restaurant that we are coming. Come and join us and support an up and coming new local restaurant. I'm sure you will find something on the menu that is outstanding.

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. For September, Newcomers Shooting will be on **Tuesday, December 11th at 6:30 p.m. and on Thursday, December 27th at 12 noon.** Contact **Vince LeGrand** for further information at legravin@gmail.com.

Book Club

Book Club will be having their **Holiday Lunch and Movie watching on Wednesday, December 12th** at the home of Joyce Dennis. We have chosen our books for 2019 and these will be announced at the luncheon and then sent out to be posted on the website. Our next meeting will be January 23, 2019. Book Club meets every other month on the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Women's Resource Center at 1:30 p.m. Coordinators are **Mary Bucy** at mebucy@hotmail.com and **Donna McDermott** at mcnona52gmail.com.

Bowling

Only one Newcomers Bowling session in December: **Thursday, December 13th** at Pin Station in Newton **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. 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. Contact **Vince LeGrand** for further information, legravin@gmail.com.

Monthly Games in December

Bridge

DECEMBER

Monday, Dec. 3rd

Karen Schafer



Holiday Bridge Party

Date: Thursday December 13, 2018

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: 76 Divot Court, Hickory, NC

Hosted by Gloria Berg and Karen Schafer

2:00 Bridge

5:00 Cocktails

6:00 Dinner

7:00 Gift Exchange

"Bring a GiftGet a Gift"**

Ham and fried chicken will be provided. You are asked to bring an appetizer, starch (potatoes, mac and cheese, rice, etc.), salad/vegie, or dessert. RSVP to Gloria at 495-8561 by Dec 7 to let her know that you will be coming and to discuss which food item to bring.

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

Dominoes

Dominoes Christmas Party is **December 4th at 6:00 p.m.** at the Hickory Airport. This is a fun game for ALL ~ male and female, beginner or experienced player, young and old. Bring \$2 for the kitty. Crosswind Café will cater dinner of Baked Rigatoni, salad, and rolls, coffee, iced tea and water for \$7, SERVED PROMPTLY AT 6:00 p.m! Players J to Z will bring desserts (please label ingredients!) We must pay the caterer for each meal ordered, so if you make reservations and do not cancel before the deadline of 6 p.m. the Sunday before the game, (December 2nd) you still must pay the \$7 charge! Correct change will be greatly appreciated. For information, please contact Bob Jones at itsmerbj@charter.net.

Games Day

Games Day will be held on **Thursday, December 6th at 11:30 a.m.** Join us for lunch and the game of your choice (Canasta, Mah Jongg, Rummikub, Dominoes, etc.). **Samba is not available on Games Day!** Players should plan to arrive by 11:30 a.m. so we can have lunch and start playing by 12:00 noon. Cost will be \$7.00 for lunch provided by Crosswind Café or \$3.00 for just games. No desserts are offered or required; however, players may choose to bring something to share. If a player orders lunch and cancels after the deadline, he/she must still pay \$7.00. Please R.S.V.P. by 6:00 p.m. on December 3rd to Haydee Pujdak (hpujdak@gmail.com). NOTE: Lori Gervasio will be the Games Day coordinator beginning with the January 3, 2019 Games Day.

There will not be a Third Thursday Game Day in December!

Games Night

Games Days and Games Nights are getting together to celebrate the Holiday Season on **Wednesday, December 12 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Hickory Regional Airport! All games are welcome. We can play Canasta, Dominoes, Rummikub, Cribbage, Mah Jongg, Euchre, Bridge or your choice. SAMBA WILL NOT BE OFFERED DUE TO TIME LIMITATIONS. Cards, Dominoes and Rummikub will be provided. Please bring any other game you want to play. We will have prizes and a special Holiday meal of Glazed Ham, Sweet Potato Casserole, Real Mashed Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Roasted Vegetables, Baked Apples, Coffee, Iced Tea, Water and Dessert. Bring any other drinks you may prefer.

This will be a fun night! Come join the crowd. There will be prizes!!! Wear your Christmas Hats. Anyone wearing a hat will receive special compensation. Please sign up early to secure your spot. The club is going to try and compensate most of the charge. There may be a minimal charge depending on attendance. Please let us know if you *do not* plan to eat dinner. We will be charged \$10.00 for every meal ordered. Deadline for signing up is Monday December 10th by Noon. We will eat promptly at 6 p.m. . . . so get there in time to pay, get settled and eat on time!

So, let us know what you want to play, a second choice and if you plan to eat dinner. Bring your wine and wear your hats. Let the party begin! Reserve your spot with Martha Conrad at marthaconrad@charter.net.

Mah Jongg

Come learn to play Mah Jongg. Club members play twice weekly at Pinecrest Retirement Center, 915 29th Avenue NE, Hickory. Would-be players get their first "lesson" by watching 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! Except for Tuesday Dec 25th, we play at **1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays** and **10:30 a.m. on Fridays**. Please R.S.V.P. to **Dianne Straley** at dfwhit@gmail.com.

Rummikub

Rummikub is a fast-moving rummy tile game for everyone ~ male and female, beginner or experienced player, young and old. Players make sets of tiles with the same numbers in different colors or build runs of tiles in the same color. The game is a combination of luck and strategy, but it is very easy to learn. Contact Michele LeGrand at exermom@gmail.com for more information.

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.

Making a Difference: Fourth Quarter Charity--Toys for Tots



Our quarterly charity October to December is the U. S. Marine Corps' TOYS for TOTS. The mission of the US Marine Corps TOYS for TOTS program is to collect **new, unwrapped** toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community. The primary goal of Marine Toys for Tots is, through the gift of a new toy, to help bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children. During this quarter, unwrapped toys may be brought to any Newcomers function. The U.S. Marine Corps will provide Christmas barrels around the community. Last year the Newcomers filled the barrels more than any other local organization! Thank You for your support.

Sponsor Highlight

This is another in our series of articles highlighting our 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 them listed under the 'Sponsors' tab on the Newcomers website.

Viewmont Pharmacy has been serving the communities of Hickory since 1951 with 48 years of experience. The friendly staff will treat you like family. At Viewmont Pharmacy they are dedicated to providing customers with services that are customized to meet their needs. Whether it's prescription medications or over the counter products, they are there to answer all your questions. If you haven't taken advantage of one of their many services, call or stop by today!

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 when you use one of our sponsors, *please* make sure to thank them for sponsoring the Newcomers of Catawba Valley.

Adra

for the Web Team

Friday December 7th Holiday Party!

Newcomers Holiday Party 2018

Friday, December 7th, 2018 at 6:00pm



At Market on Main
335 Main Ave SW Hickory

Use the Lower Level entrance on 1st St. SW
Drivers may drop passengers off at the door.
Parking is across the street.

Appetizers, Buffet Dinner and Dessert.
Cash Bar

Entertainment provided by singer and musician ***Ulysses Long***, known as the piano-playing human jukebox and for his performance on NBC's "America's Got Talent"



Plus...
Volunteer Recognition Awards
Activities and Prizes

The cost is \$30 per member and \$35 per guest

Make Checks Payable to: Newcomers of Catawba Valley
Mail to: 2425 North Center Street #169 Hickory NC 28601
Or give your payment to any Board Member

Deadline for payment is Monday December 3rd

This event co-sponsored by Edward Jones, Financial Advisor Chad Burel



Birthdays

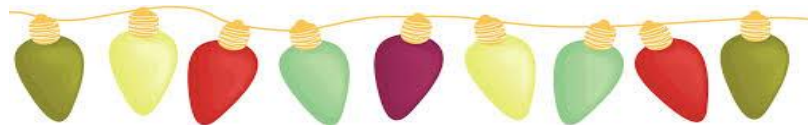
Birthdays in December

Rosie Bray	12/2
Kevin Fleck	12/5
Michael Kane	12/5
Steve Moline	12/5
Love Key	12/7
Betty Ann Williams	12/9
Carol Parker	12/10
Chris Beckom	12/12
Dale Pfingst	12/14
Sharon Bennett	12/15
Albert Derocher	12/15
Pam Wagoner	12/15
Penny Boyd	12/16
Millie Kaufman	12/17
Gary Staton	12/18
Kay Stone	12/18
Patrick Leininger	12/19
Kathy Durand	12/21
Joe Paussa	12/21
Howard Gayheart	12/25
Denise Bukovan	12/29
Joyce Dennis	12/29
Ginny Koch	12/29
Karen Schafer	12/31

Birthdays in January

Floyd Clark	1/1
John Murgio	1/1
Lee Wagoner	1/1
John Montgomery	1/2
Becky Thomas	1/2
Patricia Lang	1/4
Eric Koch	1/7
Wil Mullins	1/7
Hedy Paussa	1/7
Miki Valkanoff	1/10
David Martin	1/16
Kevin McCutcheon	1/16
Gail Miller	1/17
Sue Asp	1/21
Barb Beck	1/21
Petra Gayheart	1/22
Sue Bumgarner	1/23
Royce Dunn	1/23
Betty Stone	1/23
Ginny Heinrich	1/29
Steve Womack	1/29
Edie Ashman	1/30
Carolyn Eanes	1/30
Mary Ellen Glover	1/30

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.



Welcome to our New Members!!

Deanna L. Clark from San Francisco, CA
 Karen Mills from Washington
 Deliah Bragg from Washington
 Jo and Kim Brisciani from Colorado

A BIG Newcomers WELCOME to ALL!!

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	
Activity	Chair
Book Club	Mary Bucy, 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
Mahjongg	Dianne Straley
Members Helping Members	Betty Schwartz, Christi Austin
Newsletter Editor	Brenda Ireland
Programs	Dianne Straley
Publicity	Mary Bucy, Dianne Straley
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)

.....and, finally.....a closing thought.....



Today, wherever you go, carry the message of **PEACE**, **LOVE**, and **HARMONY** in your Heart.