



Newcomers of Catawba Valley

**2525 North Center Street
#169**

Hickory, NC 28601

www.newcomersofcv.com

President's Column

Hello Newcomers and Happy New Year.

We had a good year in 2018.

First let me say thank you to all of our members for your generous contributions to our charities. In December we collectively filled three bins full for Toys for Tots, we made 42 stockings for the South Mountain Children's Home, and we made 60 baskets for Teen Christmas. We donated much needed items and cash to the Bethlehem Food Panty, Cooperative Christian Ministry, Robins Nest and four Children Advocacy Centers. I am always impressed by our members' participation in helping others in need.

It's been a fun year of greeting new members and enjoying time with old and new friends. For the first time we offered not one but three large special events; the Illusionist, the Summer Soirée and the Holiday Party. These events and our summer picnic gave our members opportunities to socialize, laugh, dance and dine.

Speaking of dining, our group visited 24 different restaurants this year for lunch or coffee and prepared their best dishes our pot luck games picnic. We have tried several new restaurants and visited favorites Hickory, Newton, Granite Falls, Statesville, Morganton, Lincolnton and Rutherford College.

You know that many of us enjoy games. In 2018 we played games on 174 different dates. That's a lot of fun with Bridge, Mah Jongg, Rummikub, Dominos, Canasta, Samba, Bowling and Shooting. We read books, learned from our monthly speakers and were entertained by two speakers from the NC Humanities Council.

Did you realize we took 17 day trips this year to a wide variety of interesting places? It was fun taking tours, shopping and exploring many beautiful towns in NC.

Our group is growing, thriving and providing nice variety of social events for our members. I am proud of our club, our volunteers and our members for their ideas and engagement. I am looking forward to another fun year and I hope to see you at our events in 2019.

Carol Hoover,
President,
Newcomers of Catawba Valley



Updates to the Newcomers By Laws

At the March 13, 2019 General Meeting, members will be asked to vote on the following updates to our By-Laws.

Article XI. Section B. Standing Rules

Remove: The membership directory is not to be used for activities others than for organizational activities.

Replace: The Newcomers of Catawba Valley is a social club which organizes a variety of activities for its members. Members are not to promote their own business (or employer's or friend's businesses) at these activities nor are members to use the membership directory as a source of information for promoting their own business (or employer's or friend's businesses).

Rational: Expands the language to include events not just the directory to prevent businesses from using our organization for the purpose of promoting their business.

Article V. Section C. Duties of the Secretary

Remove: Prepare and distribute the newsletter.

Rational: Allows for more flexibility for different members to either perform the job of taking notes at the meeting or producing the newsletter. Twice in three years we have split these jobs between two people.

Article V. Section F. Directors

Remove: The four Director positions are a. Publicity, b. Activities, c. Programs d. Ad Hoc.

Rational: The lead projects are determined by the board. Projects include the web site, charities, sponsors, newsletter, publicity, activities, and programs. The members leading there projects may or may not need to serve on the board to perform these important functions for our club.



Monthly Events

January Program and General Meeting

Club members are invited to hear a speaker from the Alzheimer's Association speak on Wednesday, Jan. 9, at Hickory Regional Airport. Education specialist Emily James will talk about dementia, Alzheimer's and normal aging in her talk, which starts at 10:30 a.m.

Coffee and Conversation

For this month's Coffee and Conversation, we'll go to Blanca's Cakes in Hudson on Friday, Jan 25th at 1 p.m. We'll meet early so people can have lunch too. The menu for lunch changes daily and the pastries are delicious! Here is a link to their info on their Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/blancascakes01/>

Lunch Out

This month we are dining at Olde Tavern in Hickory. We will be meeting on January 10th at 11:30 a.m. at Olde Tavern which is located at 2710 N. Center Street, Hickory. Olde Tavern serves lunch with a selection of salads, sandwiches, hamburgers, wings and entrees. An Express Lunch is also offered for \$7.99, which includes soup or sandwich with one side. Besides their basic menu (www.TheOldeTavern.com), they also have daily specials. The Thursday special is the \$7.50 Build Your Own Burger (with choice of side). Regular hamburger prices are \$10.00 - \$11.00. The Carolina Burger is *delicious!* You may enter through the main door or the door to the left of the main door. The door to the left of the main entrance leads directly to the back room. RSVP to Francine Gissy @ 828-578-8488, or email her at fgissy32@gmail.com

January 26th TAILGATE PARTY

6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Hickory Airport

Tailgating is synonymous with socializing. You do not need to be a sports fan to enjoy this event. Bring your favorite tailgate food or appetizer and join fellow members for a relaxing evening. Game lovers will enjoy Trivia, Corn Hole and tabletop games. **R.S.V.P. to Francine Gissy at fgissy32@gmail.com or (828) 578 – 8488.**

Book Club

Book Club meets every other month on the 4th Wednesday of the month (our next meeting is January 23rd), **Book Club is currently reading *Glass Houses* by Louise Penny.** When a mysterious figure appears in Three Pines one cold November day, Armand Gamache and the rest of the villagers are at first curious. Then wary. Through rain and sleet, the figure stands unmoving, staring ahead. From the moment its shadow falls over the village, Gamache, now Chief Superintendent of the Sûreté du Québec, suspects the creature has deep roots and a dark purpose. Yet he does nothing. What can he do? Only watch and wait. And hope his mounting fears are not realized. But when the figure vanishes overnight and a body is discovered, it falls to Gamache to discover if a debt has been paid or levied. Months later, on a steamy July day as the trial for the accused begins in Montréal, Chief Superintendent Gamache continues to struggle with actions he set in motion that bitter November, from which there is no going back. More than the accused is on trial. Gamache's own conscience is standing in judgment. **We are in need of a Discussion leader for this book.** Book club meets at the Women's Resource Center at 1:30 p.m. Our selections for 2019 will soon be posted on the web site. Coordinators are Mary Bucy at mebucy@hotmail.com and Donna McDermott at ncnona5@gmail.com.

Bridge

JANUARY

Wednesday, Jan. 2 nd	Kathy Rozea
Monday, Jan. 7 th	Gloria Berg
Monday, Jan. 14 th	Helen Woodyard
Wednesday, Jan. 16 th	Kathy Durand
Monday, Jan. 21 st	Gloria Berg

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

Dominoes

Dominoes for January will be held on Tuesday January 8th---NOT on January 1st, due to the holiday. **Dominoes is played at the Hickory Airport and starts at 6 p.m.** Plan to arrive by 5:45 p.m. Dinner will be served promptly at 6 p.m. in order to allow us finish by 9 p.m. Whether you've played before, or want to learn, come and enjoy an evening of fun. The cost is \$7 per person, plus \$2 for the "kitty" (optional). Players will provide desserts. R.S.V.P. to **Bob Jones** at itsmerbj@charte.net

Bowling

Newcomers Bowling has three sessions in January: **Thursdays, January 3, 17, and 31** 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

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, January 8th at 6:30 p.m. and on Thursday, January 24th at 12 noon.** Contact **Vince LeGrand** for further information at legravin@gmail.com

Games Day

Games Day will be held on Jan 3rd. Join us for lunch and games at 11:30 a.m. at the Hickory Airport for canasta, rummikub, dominoes, euchre, pinochle, mah jongg or other games suggested by members. SAMBA IS NOT OFFERED AT GAMES DAY. Canasta players will be assigned to tables on a first-come, first-play basis. Your request to play will be confirmed, as we fill up tables of four. Players for all games should plan on arriving by 11:30 so we can have lunch and start playing at 12:00 noon. Cost will be \$7.00 for lunch of BBQ, rolls, broccoli salad and homemade pub chips, coffee, iced tea and water. No desserts are offered or required however members may choose to bring a dessert to share if they desire. R.S.V.P. with your choice of game no later than 6:00 p.m. Monday of the same week. If a member cancels after the R.S.V.P. deadline they are still expected to pay for the meal that had been ordered. R.S.V.P to Lori Gervasio at ljgerv@yahoo.com.

Samba and Lunch

Daytime Samba is the **Third Thursday** of each month, and this month will be on **January 24th**. Samba begins at 11:30 a.m. with lunch followed by cards. CANASTA IS NOT AVAILABLE! Lunch, dessert, beverages and an afternoon of fun-filled Cards 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. Your request to play will be confirmed, as we fill up tables of four. 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 Beckom** at beckomgc@outlook.com

Games Nights

Wednesdays **#1 January 16th**, and **#2 January 30th**, at 6:00 p.m.

Games Night #1 will offer ONLY SAMBA plus other games as desired, but NO CANASTA.

Games Night #2 will offer ONLY CANASTA plus other games as desired, but NO SAMBA.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the games nights this month, so come eat dinner and play the game of your choice. Get your group together or just come on out and try a new game. Your request to play will be confirmed, as we fill up tables of four. Plan on arriving between 5:30-5:45 p.m. to sign in and receive game assignments. Play includes a catered dinner SERVED PROMPTLY AT 6 p.m. and the games will start at 6:30 p.m. This should make it possible to be done and gone by 9:00 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! Please note on your R.S.V.P. the game you wish to play. **For Games Night #1**, R.S.V.P. to **Martha Conrad** marthaconrad@charter.net. **For Games Night #2**, R.S.V.P. to Patsy Lang at patcyl@yahoo.com.

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! 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 will be held on **Tuesday, January 15th at 6:00 p.m.** at Michele LeGrand's home. 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 betty69@gmail.com

Newcomer's Gourmet Club:

"Team Cuisine"

Mission statement: *"To enthusiastically celebrate the preparation and enjoyment of good food, and to enjoy enduring friendships among the Catawba Valley Newcomers Club."*

You might enjoy this group if:

- You love to cook
- You don't mind being *adventurous* in the kitchen
- You love to socialize over home-prepared food and wine
- You like to be challenged and enjoy learning new cooking techniques
- You are committed in your participation once you sign up for a meal
- You are comfortable following the recipes, exactly, even if it is not to your taste
- You are ok with an average meal cost per person of \$20
- Although not required, you have the desire to host six to eight guests on a rotating basis

Expectations:

Open to **ALL** Newcomers members!

Charter Chairs of this group are Christine Almeida and Jon Kiser. The Chairs will select the menu theme and recipes for at least the first two meals. Menu themes and planning for future events will be opened up as we can gain familiarity with the process. Home assignment(s) will be based upon the number of participants with the goal of six to eight guests per home. The Chairs will assign which host home you dine at once participation for a meal is established. Your *hosts* will assign which recipe(s) you will be preparing. Depending on the number of participants per home, it is possible that you will be asked to prepare two menu items. The Chairs will rotate guests to different homes to mix things up for subsequent gatherings. **These will *not* be pot luck dinners!** Some of the recipes will be easy, some will be moderate. We will avoid complicated recipes that require huge amounts of time or specialized ingredients. The host homes will be expected to prepare the entrée. Exceptions are welcome; please discuss it with your host, one-off. The hosts will need to be flexible in allowing guests to prepare or reheat their dish at their home. The hosts will provide water, iced tea and coffee. Guests are welcome to bring other beverages *at their own cost*. The host home has the *option* of providing a signature beverage *before* dinner at their own expense. Wine consumed *during* dinner becomes a *shared* expense.

We have planned a kick-off dinner for January 19th. The Chairs are prepared to host. As a new group, we will need to come up with a meeting schedule. We will ask for your input. This is a new group! The guidelines will be subject to change, and your feedback is *very welcome*.

Are you interested? Please e-mail us (**both**) at the following addresses, and we will build a *private* contact list:

Christine Almeida: cd10a28@yahoo.com (910.330.6287) and Jon Kiser: jaydeekay59@gmail.com (214.762.6919)

An evening with Julia Child



The first get-together of *Team Cuisine* will be **Saturday, January 19, 2019**. This is our (*tentative*) menu for our first gathering. We will always be following a theme; in this case, it is a nod to the one and only Julia Child. Each host will divide up the menu assignment, based upon the number of participants attending.

Julia Child said it best when she says, "People who love to eat are always the best people!"

Cheese Board
Simple Green Salad with Gorgonzola and Balsamic Vinaigrette
Beef Bourguignon served over Battered Noodles
Crusty Bakery Bread
Asparagus simmered with Onions, Garlic and Lemon
Flourless Chocolate Cake
Host selection of red and white wines (\$10-12/bottle)

Sponsor Spotlight

We are continuing to highlight the sponsors who support the Newcomers of Catawba Valley. When you need a service, please look to the sponsor tab to see if one of our sponsors can provide the help you need. Sponsors can be found on the Sponsors tab on the club's web page Western Piedmont Symphony – Organized in 1964, the mission of the Western Piedmont Symphony is to provide musical performances of distinction and to enrich and enliven the community's classical music experience. Their hope is to nourish new audiences through school concerts and family outreach programs. WPS features the Tesla Quartet, now in their fourth and final year, along with a Masterworks Series and several magnificent Special Events.

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



Making a Difference: First Quarter Charity/ Women's Resource Center

125 3rd Street NE, Hickory, NC 28601 (828) 322-6333

Women's Resource Center (WRC) of Hickory has been serving area women and families since 1986 by providing resources, information, enrichment programs and transitional services. Items donated to this program will be distributed to women who would not be able to afford them otherwise. **Products need to be regular size, new, and unopened.** These items are important for self-esteem and healthy personal hygiene. Families receiving government food assistance cannot use their allotment for these items.

Personal Products Pantry (for women and families)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Toothbrushes | 7. Toilet Paper |
| 2. Toothpaste | 8. Tissue(Kleenex) |
| 3. Shampoo | 9. Dental floss |
| 4. Conditioner | 10. Shaving razors |
| 5. Soap/body wash | 11. Paper Towels |
| 6. Feminine Products: tampons or pads | 12. Deodorant |

Cleaning Products:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Laundry Detergent (box or bottle form) | 6. Dish Soap (liquid) |
| 2. Canned Powered Cleaner (ex. Ajax, Comet) | 7. Paper Towels (roll) |
| 3. Toilet Bowl Cleaner (ex. Lysol) | 8. Toilet Paper |
| 4. Floor Cleaner (ex. Pine Power, Pine Sol) | 9. Bleach |
| 5. Window/Mirror Cleaner (ex. Windex) | 10. Dryer Sheets (fabric softener) |

WRC WOMEN2WORK CLOTHING CLOSET:

Unemployment and underemployment are still at alarmingly high levels yet there are resources to assist women in their search for work. These women may be changing careers or returning to work after years at home. To be able to interview properly, attire makes a big difference in the impression made on a prospective employer. The center works to provide women with the opportunity to choose an outfit or two to wear during their job search, or with basic uniform pieces needed before they can begin a new position. Clothing must be clean, ready to wear and on hangers. (Rule of Thumb: Classic, up-to-date styles. If you wouldn't wear it, please don't donate it.) Due to space constrictions we are not able to take handbags, accessories, hosiery, underwear, or shoes.

1. Slacks and Skirts in basic colors
2. Blouses and button downs (solid or small print)
3. Dresses (solid or small print)

Monetary donations (check or cash), gas cards and bus passes are another way to help.

Birthdays

Birthdays in January

Floyd Clark	1/1
John Murgo	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

Birthdays in February

Christi Austin	2/1
Larry Laufer	2/1
Vicki Mullins	2/6
Mike Rozea	2/6
Susan Fontyn	2/8
Barbara Laufer	2/11
Butch Dunlap	2/15
Peg Baldwin	2/19
Steven Berg	2/20
Sheila Cooke	2/21
Joyce Walker	2/21
Beth Keane	2/28

WELCOME to our NEW MEMBERS

Diana W. Earnest from Greenville, DE
Chris Daniel from Westminster, SC
Peggy Barton from Newton, NC



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	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) , Dianne Straley, Shari Kidd, Cindy Donahue, Kevin McCutcheon, Patsy Lang, Sharon Snelling, Dottie Demarest, Audrey Rozzelle and Haydee Pujdak, Mary Ellen Glover
Daytime Canasta	Chris and George Beckom, Hedy Paussa, Rick Wagman
Games Day	Lori Gervasio, Linda and Royce Dunn
Games Night #1	Shari Kidd, Martha Conrad, Mary Ellen Glover
Games Night #2	Patsy Lang, Janet Rudisill, Zig and Adra Kryszczuk
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)
Webmaster Team	and Michele LeGrand (roster)

.....and finally, a closing thought...Minds are like parachutes, they only function when open (:>)