



Newcomers of Catawba Valley
2425 North Center Street #169
Hickory, N.C. 28601
www.newcomersofcv.com

APRIL 2020

Presidents Message

Hello Newcomers!

Even in these uncertain times, nature itself is always at work, recharging and regenerating as one season unfolds into the next. I hope you are getting out for a little fresh air. A walk around the yard or block or sitting in your yard listening to nature. I have been enjoying our screened porch and all the birds that are returning as the weather continues to warm.

As I have said in recent messages to you, the coronavirus pandemic is still evolving and things are changing almost faster than we can keep up with. Our members should continue to monitor the situation and react according to the guidelines coming from the President of the United States, the CDC and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS). The President's recommendation is that groups greater than 10 be avoided. And if you are in a group be sure to keep a good distance from each person.

As I said most recently, the BOD met virtually and decided to extend our no-events, no-activities for the Newcomer's group until May 15, 2020. The BOD will take another look at the situation at our next virtual BOD meeting in April.

Once this situation passes, we will get back to the fun and social events we have enjoyed for so very long. Thank you for your support and patience. The BOD members and I are always available for your questions and concerns during this temporary measure.

Take good care of yourselves.

Happy Spring and Happy Easter!

Hope to be seeing you all very soon!

Best regards,

Cathi Montgomery
President, NCV



Special Events Committee : Events to Look Forward to from the Special Events Committee

We are all starting to go a little bonkers with the stay-at-home-policies, so I thought I'd give you something to look forward to!

PONTOON PARTY

Again this year NCV will be having a Pontoon Party, thanks to Chad Burel and Lake Hickory Adventures. This is scheduled to happen on Wednesday, June 3rd (rain date June 4th). More details will be coming as we get closer to the date and are sure we can go ahead. Because we will need to pull this together fairly quickly, please watch your email and newsletter for sign-ups and respond quickly. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

ANNUAL PICNIC

This year's Annual Picnic is in the works! It will be held at Glen C. Hilton Park (6th Street NW, Hickory) on June 22nd from 11:00-3:00. Please note: this is tentative since we can't actually reserve the shelters at this time. Here's what we're planning: Horseshoes (there are 2 Horseshoe Pits near the shelters we are planning to reserve), Bingo, Rummikub, Dominoes, Corn hole, Newcomer Jeopardy/Trivia and possible Geocaching. The park offers Disc Golf and great paths in the woods for hiking as well as a Boardwalk to stroll. We have lots of grass area available as well as picnic tables, so let us know if you would like to bring any other games/activities. Food assignments will be done as the date gets closer.

POOL PARTY

Thanks to Michele and Vince Legrand and Dianne and Paige Straley, the Pool Party is set to happen on July 18th. Mark your calendars now and start getting ready for swimsuit season! More details later.

Other Activities We are Working On

In these uncertain times we are still hoping to get in a few trips and activities in the near future. Look for trips to the Hickory Raceway over the summer, the re-scheduling of the Historical Museum, Popcorn Factory and Asheville Food Tours, a Brewery Tour, a Wine & Paint Party, a Jewelry-Making Class and a Fall Trolley Leaf Tour.

Attention Corn hole Players! (or Corn hole Player wanna-be's)

The Special Events Committee is looking for a Corn hole Set. Although some of our members have sets which we have borrowed in the past, we felt it would be worth the investment to have our own set. Do you have a set you no longer use/want? Do you know someone else who is looking to get rid of their set? When you're checking out Yard Sales/Garage Sales/Tag Sales see if there's a set available and pick it up for the Club. (You will be reimbursed.) There are a number of you who enjoy doing woodworking projects and this could be your next one! Again, the Club will reimburse you for the materials if you are interested in doing this.

If you have a set, find an inexpensive set (new ones go for around \$125), or are willing to construct one, let me know! I don't mind storing a set or two, but we don't need ten!! You can email me at chizenamy@gmail.com, or call/text to (860) 428-6786.

Thanks in advance!

Amy Chizen



Committee Position Available!

The board is asking for help from our membership. There is a need for a person or persons to cover our Members Helping Members committee. The position coordinates support for members with short term needs and would not require a lot of time and just a minimum of computer and telephone work. Please put your thinking caps on if you would be willing to consider this position and contact Adra Kryszczuk, temporary chair at adraellen@yahoo.com

A lil HUMOR

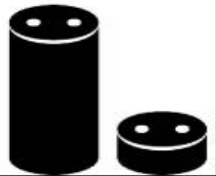
Note: This is just to lighten the day and make you smile...and in NO WAY means that this situation we are in is taken lightly. We are all in this together, and I always have been a "glass half FULL person. It's in my nature to try to pass on as many smiles as possible...take care and stay safe...virtual hugs to you all!!!

My grandson saw the empty toilet paper shelves and asked, does this mean everyone will start using pull-ups? I said 'Depends'...

Day 4 of social distancing: Struck up a conversation with a spider today. Seems nice. He's a web designer.

ASK ALEXA THESE FUN QUESTIONS

- ALEXA, DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?
- ALEXA, WHAT IS THE VALUE OF PI?
- ALEXA, WILL YOU BE MY GIRLFRIEND?
- ALEXA, IS YOUR REFRIGERATOR RUNNING?
- ALEXA, CAN YOU GIVE ME SOME MONEY?
- ALEXA, MAKE ME A SANDWICH
- ALEXA, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT CORTANA?
- ALEXA, HOW MUCH DO YOU WEIGH?
- ALEXA, I'VE GOT 99 PROBLEMS
- ALEXA, DO YOU LIKE PIZZA?
- ALEXA, DO YOU KNOW SIRI?
- ALEXA, TELL ME A "YO MAMA" JOKE
- ALEXA, DO YOU KNOW THE MUFFIN MAN?
- ALEXA, HOW HIGH CAN YOU COUNT?
- ALEXA, HOW OLD ARE YOU?
- ALEXA, I LIKE BIG BUTTS
- ALEXA, DROP A BEAT



Seeing all the jokes about toilet paper shortages. I don't find them very Charmin. It's Scott to stop soon. This is Northern to laugh about! Is this some kind of vast 2-ply conspiracy?! . Very hard to absorb it all. I mean it wipes me out!! I guess I will just roll along with everyone else. I have to go now...I'm feeling flushed.

THE FIRST WORD YOU SEE IS WHERE YOU ARE GOING IN APRIL

N O W H E R E N O W H E R E
O W H E R E N O W H E R E N
W H E R E N O W H E R E N O
H E R A B S O L U T E Y O W
E R E N O W H E R E N O W H
R E N O W H E R E N O W H E
E N O W H E R E N O W H E R
N O W H E R E N O W H E R E
O W H E R E N O W H E R E N
W H E R E N O W H E R E N O
H E R E N O W H E R E N O W
E R E N O W H E R E N O W H



**HAPPY
EASTER**



**HAPPY
EASTER**

Play Games you LOVE....ONLINE with a computer partner, or get others to sign in on the sites and play with them

I have picked ones my computer antivirus/Norton, says were SAFE SITES. BUT, as always check for yourself and if you are not comfortable...pick another site. All I did was "GOOGLE" the different games we all play using the Game Name and "play online FREE"

Games that you can play online, against the computer, or with other you know who sign up on the same website:

Canasta sights:

<https://www.playok.com/en/canasta/>

<https://zone.msn.com/en/canasta/default>

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/canasta-online-offline/id1059474530> for APPLE devices only

For members who are Face Book users

Rummikub and Canasta FB Pages:

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

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

Rummikub sights:

<https://rummikub.com/>

Dominoes sights:

<https://www.dominoblock.com/>

Book Club

Book Club is currently reading **The Only Woman in the Room by Marie Benedict.** Her beauty almost certainly saved her from the rising Nazi party and led to marriage with an Austrian arms dealer.

Underestimated in everything else, she overheard the Third Reich's plans while at her husband's side, understanding more than anyone would guess. She devised a plan to flee in disguise from their castle, and the whirlwind escape landed her in Hollywood. She became Hedy Lamarr, screen star. But she kept a secret more shocking than her heritage or her marriage: she was a scientist. And she knew a few secrets about the enemy.

Book Club meets every other month on the 4th Wednesday of the month, except for this November. Our next meeting is May 27, at Women's Resource Center at 1:30 p.m. Mary Bucy will facilitate our discussion. The Book Club Coordinator is Mary Bucy at mebucy@hotmail.com

Mah Jongg



After two weeks of no games, mah jongg was gotten much more interesting. Not only has the 2020 card arrived in the mail (did you sanitize it?), but many of us have discovered an excellent online version called Real Mah Jongg. You download the app from your app store and play on the internet.

<https://realmahjongg.com/>

The photos here are what the opening page and sign in/up page looks like

We can play against computer opponents, other humans or your friends. Players have their choice of using the newest card or an older version, as well as the speed of the game.

The first two weeks are free, with no need to give your credit card number. After that, you can opt for a monthly subscription of \$5.99 or \$59.99 a year. It is realistic, easy to use and lots of fun.

Several of our players added another feature: We started a conference call on our cell phones and chatted and kitized as we played. It was so fun to hear familiar voices.

We will stick to our normal schedule: 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 10:30 a.m. Fridays - **not** at Pinecrest but online.

14 day free trial Signup without credit card. Then just \$5.99/mo.	
Already have an account?	
Email	Enter your email
Username	Enter a username
Password	Enter a password
Sign Up	

To make it easier to find each other, we are asking all players who plan to play to respond to a group RSVP email with their user name. Those whose last name begins A-M, will play at Brenda Ireland's table.

Look for Brenda's user name [hickorybrenda](#)

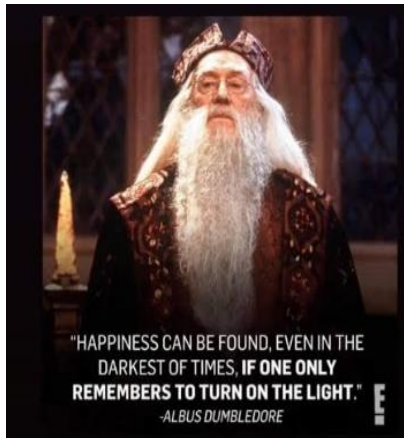
Those with last names M-Z will play at Chris Beckom's table, her user name is [hickorychris](#)

If you have questions, contact Dianne Straley dfwhit@gmail.com

Or at the Real Mah Jongg table at [hickorydianne](#)



Thoughts/Common Sense/LOVE



It seems a little ridiculous to me that people are so afraid that their children are going to miss a whole month of learning.

How about using this month to teach them how to cook, check the oil in the car, do laundry, treat others with respect, sew on a button, deep clean, balance a checkbook, etc.

Not all learning is done in a classroom.

ALSO HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS IS -
Kindness, Patience, Love, Enthusiasm,
and a Positive Attitude
Don't wait to catch it from others
Be the Carrier



ok but honestly, how privileged are we that during a global pandemic we can just stay warm at home reading, working, still being educated, creating, with little worries and a fridge stocked with food? do remind yourself to be grateful today ♥



mmmm....you got coooookies??



Not our Typical Newsletter Edition-----Covid-19-corona virus

To All our NCV Members:

Please be sure to get all your information about the Covid-19 Virus and what is happening in our State and our area from FACTUAL and RELIABLE sources. There have been numerous misleading articles on social media and even sent through emails and texts that are just plain wrong and harmful.

Below are some websites with accurate and timely information on the corona virus:

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/counterterrorism-and-emerging-threats/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

<https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus>

<https://www.wfae.report/breakingnews/>

<https://www.wbtv.com/news/catawba-county/>

All these websites have the ability for you to sign up for regular updates.

SHARE FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.

FACT 1 Diseases can make anyone sick regardless of their race or ethnicity.

Fear and anxiety about COVID-19 can cause people to avoid or reject others even though they are not at risk for spreading the virus.

FACT 2 For most people, the immediate risk of becoming seriously ill from the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to be low.

Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more serious complications from COVID-19.

FACT 3 Someone who has completed quarantine or has been released from isolation does not pose a risk of infection to other people.

For up-to-date information, visit CDC's coronavirus disease 2019 web page.

FACT 4 There are simple things you can do to help keep yourself and others healthy.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

FACT 5 You can help stop COVID-19 by knowing the signs and symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Seek medical advice if you

- Develop symptoms

AND

- Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

cdc.gov/COVID-19

A Note from the Editor.....(that's me.....(:>).....Brenda Ireland!!)

This Newsletter Edition has definitely been a challenge, and I wanted to share a bit of my thought process with you all. Panic was my first thought....after the Board had to cancel all of our gatherings, and the Event Committee had to cancel their events. I did ask the Newsletter contributors if they had any tips or wanted to share what was keeping them busy and active. Got a few ideas, all of which I have used. BUT, mainly, I wanted to be very deliberate about what I used and how I used it, so not only did it provide smiles, but accurate and fact based info about what we are a part of at this time. There is so much in our community that is still functioning and ready to serve. The few times I have gone out, and taken my same path to get groceries...I have seen appropriate social distancing enforced, restaurants open only for Take Out or delivery, people have pretty good about distancing 6 ft when you have to stand in line, etc. I would love to have members tell me their stories about what they have done to keep themselves mentally and physically busy. I have noticed my email is filled with the companies, local and outside of Hickory, have sent info about the Virus and what they are doing, and tips to help you.

We also have a fabulous listing of Sponsors, and many of them may still be able to provide their services to you if needed. Please check the Newcomers website www.newcomersofcv.com and look thru our listing of GREAT Local

businesses that sponsor what we do and provide the ability for us to do what we do...and if see you might have a need for their services. We have Auto Maintenance, Real Estate, Financial Advice, Carpet Cleaning, Power Washing, Computer support and repair, Pharmacy...to name a few.

Ok...I will step off my soapbox...I hope you enjoy the Newsletter...and I know I enjoy putting it together for Y'all (:>)

Sponsor Spotlight

Hickory Real Estate Group

Hickory Real Estate Group, who joined Newcomers as a sponsor in 2018, was founded in 2010 by Mike and Kathleen Kelly. They had been working together as a team with a local large franchise firm and decided that it was time to go out on their own. Both Mike and Kathleen grew up in entrepreneurial families so it was a natural progression for them to strike out on their own.

Five years later Hickory Real Estate Group has grown into 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. They are members of the Catawba Valley MLS servicing Hickory, Newton, Conover, Maiden, Granite Falls, Hudson, Lenoir, Taylorsville, Bethlehem, Mountain View and the Lake Hickory Area.

Their goal is to provide their 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. Give Mike and Kathleen a call at 828-318-8722.

New Members

Scott and Phyllis Polo from Statesville, N.C. Iris Sechriest from Forest City, N.C.

Nancy Churchwell from New Jersey

Kym Armstrong from Belmont, N.C.

Welcome Y'all

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Birthdays in April

Andy Bucy	4/1
Kym Armstrong	4/1
Judy Dostall	4/4
Mike Caudill	4/5
Sharon Hilliker	4/6
Rebecca Alt	4/6
John Almeida	4/9
Harold W. Mason	4/9
Don Baldwin	4/10
Margie Dickey	4/10
Donna McDermott	4/10
William Waldron	4/11
Debbie Dalton	4/13
Susan Leininger	4/13
Jon Kiser	4/14
Al Cobb	4/15
Bob Jones	4/15
Dianne Straley	4/17
Ruth Siskind	4/17
Joe Durand	4/18
Deborah Wood	4/19
Lisa Burel	4/20
Lori Martin	4/22

MORE April Birthdays

Chad Burel	4/26
Raymond Osterer	4/26
Naomi East	4/27
Susan Perkins	4/27
Delilah Bragg	4/29
Craig Hines	4/29
Bert Perkins	4/30
Susan Turner	4/30

Birthdays in May

Janis Goonan	5/1
Nancie Jaeger	5/3
Al Osbahr	5/4
Carolyn Shoemaker	5/10
John Wrigley	5/11
Anna Murawski	5/12
Brenda Gordon	5/14
Elaine L. Kalber	5/20
Debra Palmer	5/22
Pratibha Patel	5/24
Tecky Kenny	5/25
Robyn Wolgemuth	5/26
Marc Fedder	5/27
Karen Mills	5/28



NEWCOMERS OF CATAWBA VALLEY—SPONSORS



Hickory Community Theatre



Heaven's Best Carpet Cleaning



Trent Jolley, Farm Bureau Insurance



Lake Hickory Adventures



Chad Burel, Edward Jones Investing



Hickory Real Estate Group



Viewmont Healthsmart Pharmacy



Crosswind Café



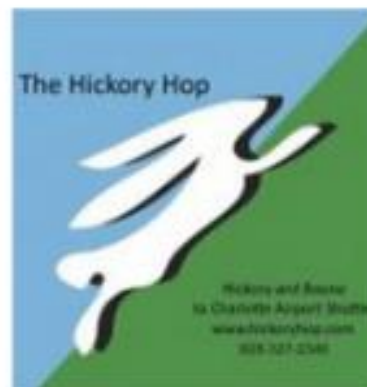
Catawba County Chamber of Commerce



Catawba Valley Comm College



Marine Corps League



Hickory Hop



Select Tech Repairs



Granite Falls Brewery



Van Fleet Aviation

The UPS Store

The UPS Store



Linda Meares, Coldwell Banker

LINDA MEARES
 Realtor, 201.34.10.107
 878-637-2786 Mobile
 828-332-8040 Business
 828-332-1899 Fax
 lmeares@coldwellbanker.com
COLDWELL BANKER
 BTD-BUILD, INC.
 REALTOR
 1111 Line Street, Apt.
 Hickory, NC 28601
 www.cbb.com/builderinc



Allen Tate Realty - Mortgage

Gary West's Power Washing and Steam Cleaning

Business
 Residential
 Commercial
 Vinyl Siding
 Tractor & Trailers
 Heavy Equipment
 Decks, Driveways, Floors, Etc.
 3252 Pooh Place
 Lenoir, NC 28645
 828-754-8072
 (Cell) 396-0323

Gary West's Power Wash



Life Enrichment Travel

Mike Sigmon 404-277-7369 - Cell
 President 226 4th Avenue NW
 msigmon69@gmail.com Hickory, NC 28601



Auto Fitness Center



LIMBS Physical Therapy



Hickory Heat & Cool

Quarterly Charity

Robin's Nest

Robin's Nest is a nationally accredited Children's Advocacy Center. Child victims of sexual and severe physical abuse are provided child specific services that include compassionate forensic interviews, medical examinations, counseling and advocacy services. Providing these services at a single site helps decrease the trauma these children face, speed the healing process, and increase the likelihood of conviction of offenders.



ROBIN'S NEST
 Children's Advocacy Center

WISH LIST

GIFT CARD

- \$10 Wal-Mart Gift Cards
- \$10 Grocery Store Gift Cards (Fair Value, Food Lion)
- \$10 Gas Cards

SNACKS

- Juice Boxes
- Individual Size Snack Packs - Chips, Cookies, Gummy Snacks, Applesauce, Crackers, Little Debbie Cakes

GENERAL SUPPLIES

- Copy Paper 8 1/2 x 11
- Paper Towels & Toilet Tissue
- 13 Gallon Tall Kitchen Trash Bags
- Antibacterial Cleaning Wipes & Spray Cleaner
- Air Freshener Spray
- Heavy Duty PAPER Plates & Plastic Forks, Knives, Spoons
- 12oz Disposable Coffee Cups, K-cups for Keurig, Flavored Creamer Cups/Powdered Creamer/Sugar
- Lysol

ALFIE'S WISH LIST (Robin's Nest received Alfie through the Canine Companions for Independence Program in February 2020)

Alfie can only accept the following items. This is a mandate through the Canine Companions program

- Dog Food: Eukanuba Large Breed
- Kong Toys
- Lint Rollers
- Oatmeal Shampoo for Dogs
- Mango Tango Cleansing Wipes for Dogs

Officers, Directors, Activity Chairs and Committees 2020

Officers	Position
Cathi Montgomery	President
Rob Herman	Vice President
Kathy Rozea	Treasurer
Chris Beckom	Secretary
Delilah Bragg	Past President
Directors	
	Amy Chizen
	Adra Kryszczuk
	Suzie Matthews
	Addie McSherley
Activity	Chair
Book Club	Mary Bucy, Donna McDermott
Bowling	Vince LeGrand
Bridge	Gloria Berg
Canasta and Games Day	Linda and Royce Dunn, Adra Kryszczuk
Canasta and Games Night	Zig and Adra Kryszczuk, Addie and Lonny McSherley
Charity Coordinator	Suzie Matthews
Coffee & Conversation	Sheri Binning
Dominoes	Bob Jones, Cheri & Ed Stewart
Events Committee	Amy Chizen (chair), Chris Beckom, Dottie Demarest, Mary Ellen Glover, Shari Kidd, Jon Kiser, Kevin McCutcheon, Audrey Rozzelle, Sharon Snellings and Paige Straley.
Items of Interest	Bob Jones
Hospitality	Sharon Snellings, Carol Sawicki, Judy Dostall
Lunch out	Chuck Bethany, Francine Gissy
MahJongg	Dianne Straley
Membership	Rob Herman
Members Helping Members	Position available
Newsletter Editor	Brenda Ireland
Programs	Dianne Straley
Publicity	Amy Chizen
Rummikub	Michele LeGrand
Samba Day	Chris and George Beckom, Hedy Paussa
Samba and Games Night	Paige and Dianne Straley, Audrey Rozzelle
Shooting Practice	Vince LeGrand
Sponsors	Brenda Ireland
Team Cuisine	Chris and John Almeida, Jon Kiser and Rob Herman
Webmaster Team	Adra Kryszczuk (site and calendar), Greg Gervasio (site advisor)

.....last, but NOT least.....Cat life mice can foxes be wolves boring frogs but

grasshopper let's swan love it cow anyhow.....

Now read it again, without the animals/insects.....

Thanks for reading Our newsletter....I hope it was enjoyable and meaningful.....