

NEWCOMERS OF CATAWBA VALLEY

2425 North Center Street #169

Hickory, NC 28601

newcomersofcv.com

MAY 2021



President's Column

"APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS."

Hello Newcomers!

Activities are slowly opening, and hopefully you have seen announcements from different event chairs. The picnic held on April 15 was a great success, even though the weather was not very cooperative. Twenty-eight folks showed up and had a great time catching up with each other. Another picnic is scheduled for May 4 at Riverbend Park in Conover. Look for the flyer and see details in this newsletter.

Our first "in-person" General Meeting, since over a year ago, is scheduled to take place at Glenn C. Hilton, Jr. Park, Hickory, Pavilion #2 at 10:30 am, on May 12. No food or drinks will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Also, please bring your own chairs. We will have a speaker system, so everyone should be able to hear. (We had hoped to hold the meeting at the airport, but cannot due to the limited number of people currently allowed in the meeting room.) Come and say hello to your fellow members, your BOD, learn what's going on with games/activities, and enjoy the May weather. Don't forget to wear your masks.

This quarter's charity is the Habitat for Humanity in Taylorsville, NC. Nancy Geiger and Amy Chizen have planned a special event for getting items donated. There will be a meet-up and delivery of items for Habitat for Humanity, followed by a lunch on May 13. Even if you don't have any donations at this time, feel free to join us for lunch. Look for the flyer and more information in this newsletter. You may also bring any items you may have for Habitat for Humanity to the General Meeting on May 12th.

A few people have asked about NCV membership dues. We mentioned this a few months ago, but it is worth repeating. Since there were no activities last year to speak of, the BOD decided we would NOT collect dues this spring. We are going to re-evaluate again in September of this year, at which time we may need to collect dues (cost unknown at this time).

As always, when you donate to our charities, let them know that you are from the NCV, and let Nancy know as well.

Also, when you use our SPONSORS, please let them know you are from NCV. This tells them that their sponsorship is worthwhile.

Hope to see you soon!

Thank you! If you have any questions, please contact me cathimontgomery@aol.com, or any other BOD member.



As always....stay safe and healthy....and happy!

Cathi Montgomery
President, NCV

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE



**Wahoo and Hip, Hip Hooray
From the Special Events
Committee!!**



And we're back in business!! Before I get into what's in the works, I would like to ask who among us is ready and willing to step up to be on the SEC? To say our committee is all about fun is a given! Our meetings are entertaining and energetic, you only take on what you are comfortable doing, and our big events involve many helpers so you don't end up taking on a big project by yourself. Everyone in our group contributes ideas for what to do and how to do it, as well as supplying much-needed information about the places to visit. It's amazing what all is around here to explore: hiking, gardens, museums, sports, etc. Join in the fun of getting our activities going again! Contact me at chizenamy@gmail.com or (860) 428-6786, and let me know your Name, E-Mail, Phone number, Meeting day preference, Morning or afternoon preference, and any particular activities you are interested in seeing us do.

On to our Activities Listing!!!

May 4: Let's Do Lunch Picnic #2. Since April's picnic was so great, we've planned another one for May! This one will be held at Riverbend Park on Highway 16 in Conover at the pavilion by the water. To reach the pavilion, drive through the parking area and down the steep hill to the additional parking area by the waterfront. Again, we will all bring whatever we want to eat and drink. Nothing will be provided by the Club. See the flyer in this Newsletter for details. Note: There is no rain date for this activity.



May 13: Habitat for Humanity Restore Outing. Our Charity for the second quarter is Habitat for Humanity in Alexander County. One source of income is their Restore Shop in Taylorsville. Start gathering together items that you want/need to get out of your house and donating them to

Restore. To make donating easier, we are going to meet at the Lowe's Grocery Store parking lot in Bethlehem (on 127 in front of the new Ace Hardware) on May 13th so you can bring your boxes or bags of donated items for transport up to Taylorsville. We encourage you to join us to help unload the cars, caravan to Restore, and then do a little shopping there, too. At 11:30 plan to join us for lunch at Casa Mexico just around the corner. This is all spelled out on the second flyer in this Newsletter. Note: You can also bring items for donation to the General Meeting on May 12th at Hilton Park. Start emptying closets, basements and garages now!

May 13: Lunch Out at Casa Mexico. Join us for our first-in-a-long-time Lunch Out! After working up an appetite at Restore, join us for lunch. If you aren't participating in donating or shopping at Restore, you can still join us for lunch! Please let me know via email at fgissy32@gmail.com if you will be coming by Tuesday, May 11th, so we can pass along a count to the restaurant. Yes, there's a flyer!

Other activities in the works: Crawdad's Baseball Game and dinner, a trip to Blowing Rock, exploring Linville Caverns, a day at Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, and many more exciting things! I hope you will take a look at our flyers, mark the dates on your calendar, and join us for some long-awaited socializing.

Amy Chizen, SEC Chai

Bring Your Own Picnic Lunch #2!

Since this was so popular in April, let's do it again in May! This is a very informal meet up just to say hi.

Date: Tuesday, May 4th (**No Rain date**)

Where: Riverbend Park, Hwy. 16, Conover, at the pavilion by the waterfront

Time: 12:00 noon until ???

Bring: Your own lunch including drinks (You don't have to make it yourself; stop on the way and pick it up!)

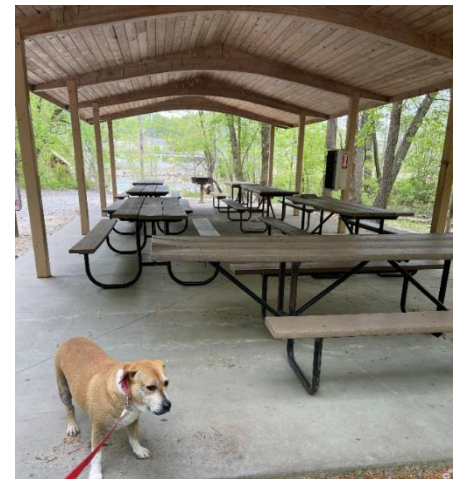
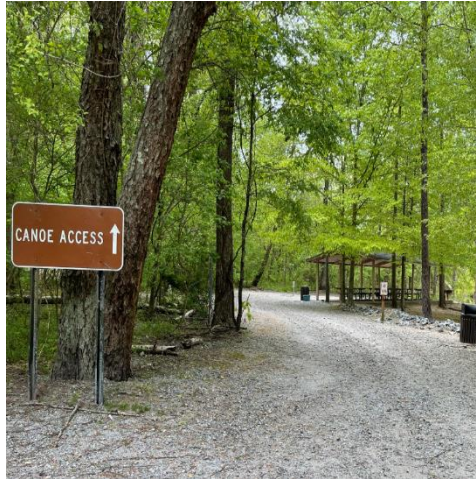


There are no RSVPs, no commitments, nothing you have to provide except your own lunch. NOTHING will be provided by the club and we prefer that you not bring anything to be shared. **Masks must be worn except when eating.** If you don't want to do lunch, just stop by and say hello!



You are welcome to bring any activities you would like, such as dominoes, cards, and we'll have the Corn Hole. Also keep in mind that there are terrific trails to hike here if you want to come early or plan to stay afterward.

Pictures for getting to the May 4th Picnic Area at Riverbend Park in Conover



2nd QUARTER CHARITY Habitat for Humanity - Taylorsville



Good Afternoon, Newcomers!

I'd like to take a couple minutes of your time to remind you how you can support this quarter's charity – Habitat for Humanity in Alexander County. I'm going to be gone the first half of May and didn't want that to hold anything up!

If you'd like to actually go help build a house, please call Matt Cooksey, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity, Alexander County at 828 612-2630 and tell him which Saturday you plan to come by.

He'll give you the address and add you to his count of workers so you'll get lunch that day.

Speaking of lunch – they also are always looking for people to provide the lunches. They usually have 10 – 12 workers, so if a few of you would like to get together and bring lunch out to the site one Saturday, you can also call Matt (828-612-2630) and set up a date for that.

Participate in the outing below. Please let Amy know if you plan on attending. And if you can't attend but would like to send items that day for the Restore, let her know that too. She'll let you know where and when to drop your things off so the group can bring them along.

As always, let me know if you do anything with Habitat so I can brag about you in a future newsletter!!!

Nancy Geiger/Charity Chair



Habitat for Humanity Restore Outing

Our Charity for the second quarter is Habitat for Humanity in Alexander County. One source of income is their Restore Shop in Taylorsville. So, Start gathering together items that you want/need to get out of your house and donate them to Restore. To make donating easier, we are planning a group trip up to Taylorsville.



DATE: Thursday, May 13th

TIME: 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

MEET AT: Lowe's Grocery Store parking lot in the new Ace Hardware)

Bethlehem (on 127 in front of

RSVP: To chizenamy@gmail.com

BRING: Boxes, bags, or loose items for transport up to Taylorsville. You don't have to drive there to donate; just bring your items and we'll take them up for you. **PLEASE NO CLOTHING!** Wagons ho!



We encourage everyone to join us and do a little shopping while there! However, if you don't have anything to donate, you are welcome to caravan up to Restore with us anyway! A third option is to meet us at Restore after 10:30 AM.

Start emptying those closets, basements and garages now!

NOTE: You may also bring items to the General Meeting on May 12th at Hilton Park.



Lunch Out at Casa Mexico

Join us for our first-in-a-long-time **Lunch Out!** Whether you have worked up an appetite helping with donations, and/or shopping at Restore, or are simply hungry to see your fellow members, join us for lunch!

DATE: Thursday, May 13th

TIME: 11:30 AM

RESTAURANT: Casa Mexico, 60 Liledoun Road, Taylorsville
(828) 352 -9901

RSVP: By Tuesday, May 11th to fgissy32@gmail.com

Casa Mexico restaurant is a family-owned and operated Mexican restaurant serving authentic Mexican-style dishes. The lunch menu is extensive and prices are very reasonable ranging from \$5.00 - \$9.00.

NOTE: Outdoor seating is being reserved for our group

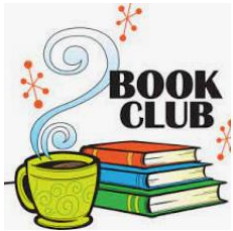


Even if you aren't participating in donating or shopping at Restore, you can still

Join us for Lunch Out!



Book club



Bookclub is reading **The Necklace: Thirteen Women and the Experiment that Transformed Their Lives** by Cheryl Jarvis.

It started when one of the ladies saw a diamond necklace in a jewelry store window. The necklace aroused desire first, then a provocative question: What if we shared what we desired? Several weeks, dozens of phone calls, and a leap of faith later, she bought the necklace with twelve other women. With vastly dissimilar

histories and lives, the women transcended their individual personalities and politics to join together in an uncommon journey Part charm, part metaphor, part mirror, the necklace weaves in and out of each woman's life, and comes to mean something dramatically different to each of them. What started as a quirky social experiment became something far richer and deeper, as the women transformed a symbol of exclusivity into a symbol of inclusiveness. They discovered that sharing the necklace was only the beginning the more they shared with others, the more profound this experience became.

Bookclub meets every other month on the 4th Wednesday. Our meeting to discuss The Necklace will be May 26 and Amy Chizen will lead our discussion. Typically we meet at 1:30 at the Women's Resource Center in Hickory. I am not sure, at this time if we will Zoom or perhaps meet in person outside. If you would like to receive

updates, please email me

at mbucy1@gmail.com

Thanks, Mary Bucy



BRIDGE

MAY

Monday, May 3rd	Barb Beck
Wednesday, May 5th	Karen Schafer
Monday, May 10th	Addie McSherley
Monday, May 17th	Carol Parker
Wednesday, May 19th	Susan Perkins



JUNE

Wednesday, June 2nd	Carol Parker
Monday, June 7th	Helen Woodyard
Monday, June 14th	Betty Stone
Wednesday, June 16th	Susan Perkins
Monday, June 21st	Margie Dickie



MAH JONGG

Newcomers plays online mah jongg on Fridays through the Real Mah Jongg application. Look for us at 10:30 am by searching for players with hickory in their username, such as hickorydianne.

Several of us will again play in person on Tuesdays after more than a year away from the game. A permanent location has not been found, but we are in talks with Pinecrest about going back there. Until then, we will play at various homes and locations. Those Tuesday games are no longer associated with Newcomers. Individual organizers and hosts can decide if they will limit their games to only fully vaccinated players.

Dianne Straley dfwhit@gmail.com

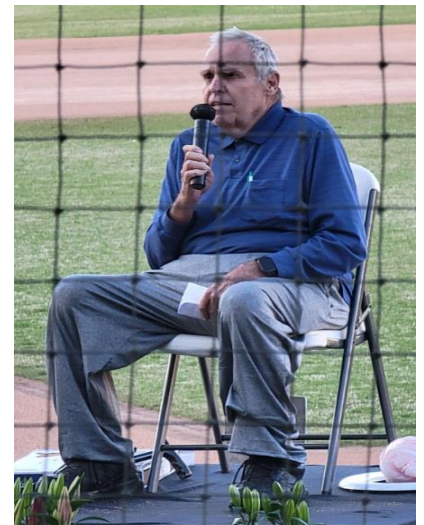


COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Hello to all!!!, we'll go to the Vault in Bethlehem on the last Friday of the month as usual and that would be the 28th this time. We'll meet a little earlier at 1 pm so we can have lunch too. If people are more comfortable sitting at their own table, that's fine too. They also have outdoor seating, but I'll probably be in the air conditioning! Contact Ronald Binning Ronald.binning@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/thevault.hky/>

Stand Up for Hunger---and our Mike Sigmon

Newcomers own, Mike Sigmon was one of 8 "Stand-Up" Comedians who performed!! GoMIKE!!



April 15th Newcomers PICNIC @ Glenn Hilton Park in Hickory.....PHOTOS

We had a GREAT turnout and it was so nice to see many of you...I was taking pictures and soooo happy to see you all !!!!! It was a bit windy, overcast, and cool...but that did not stop y'all from joining with food, smiles, and gratefulness to gather!!



PICNIC IN THE PARK



4 Paws Kingdom Trip April 19-21 Rutherfordton. NC



Dianne and Paige Straley found this amazing RV Park for Adults and Dogs only!! No one under 18 is allowed...and it's only 60+ miles from Hickory. In our November 2020 Newsletter, we submitted this idea of members with dogs reserve a place, take your



camper, or rent a cabin/lil' trailer and set a date for April 2021, hoping that times would be better for gathering. Well had about 13-14 of us who made the trip...and we had a blast...and so did our fur babies!! Pictures below....I had a hard time picking as we took so many...

We gathered together the first afternoon/evening to get the dog acquainted one of the many fenced dog yards next to a nice covered pavilion where we later gathered to eat and visit. We were there before the actual

season starting...so not all the services were up and running...the new owner, Paul was friendly and so very helpful and accommodating to our requests. We are planning to return next April, 2022!!! Watch for us to announce it in the Fall 2021 Newsletter!!





Casey Osterer, Lucy, Hoover, Ginger Straley



.....and we had some water lovin' doggies, too!!!! Thank goodness this is a full service place!!

We were able to get a great group shot on our last night...and Carol Hoover arranged with the Park owner to let us use their awesome fire pit. We all had a wonderful time



BIRTHDAYS

Birthdays in May		Birthdays in June	
Janis Goonan	5/1	Neil Forrest	6/2
Al Osbahr	5/4	Bill McLaughlin	6/4
Carolyn Shoemaker	5/10	Gail Meyer	6/5
John Wrigley	5/11	Verna McDowell	6/8
Anna Murawski	5/12	Carol Lundeen	6/9
Brenda Gordon	5/14	Stan Bumgarner	6/11
Elaine L. Kalber	5/20	Kris Bowman	6/13
Debra Palmer	5/22	Betty Schwartz	6/13
Pratibha Patel	5/24	Kenneth Pujdak	6/17
Teeky Kenny	5/25	June Chalk	6/18
Robyn Wolgemuth	5/26	Cass Taliaferro	6/18
Marc Fedder	5/27	George Beckom	6/21
Karen Mills	5/28	Doak Walker	6/21
		Laurie Johnsen	6/22
		Bill Jones	6/22
		Gloria Berg	6/24
		Dennis Valkanoff	6/24
		Bev Forrest	6/26
		Sandy Sigmon	6/27
		Carol Earl	6/30



NEW MEMBERS

Karen and Ray Finnegan

From NEVADA

And

Dick and Pat FLACHBART

From California



MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

Hi Everyone, Members Helping Members is a great idea. It does not require much time as a chairperson. I believe that most of you could handle this position without much effort.

My husband and I are opening a thrift shop in Vale and it will require all of my free time. So, I need to see if someone would be willing to help or take over this position. If you have any questions please let me know and we can talk about anything you are concerned about.

Hopefully everyone got a chance to enjoy the lovely weather.

Sandi If you are interested, please contact Sandi at ncvalegirl@gmail.com

A few FUNNNNNNNNNIES

"Scotch?" from Chris Beckom....

On the first day of school, the children brought gifts for their teacher.
The supermarket manager's daughter brought the teacher a basket of assorted fruit.

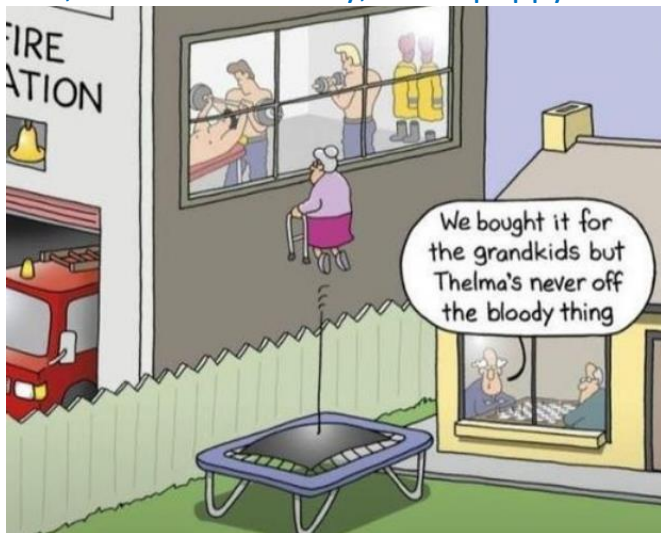
The florist's son brought the teacher a bouquet of flowers

The candy-store owner's daughter gave the teacher a pretty box of candy.

Then the liquor-store owner's son brought up a big, heavy box. The teacher lifted it up and noticed that it was leaking a little bit.. She touched a drop of the liquid with her finger and tasted it.

"Is it wine?" she guessed. "No," the boy replied. She tasted another drop and asked, "Champagne?"

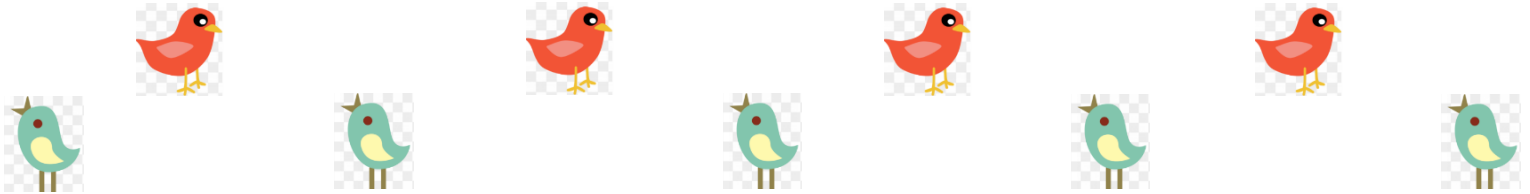
"No," said the little boy, "It's a puppy."



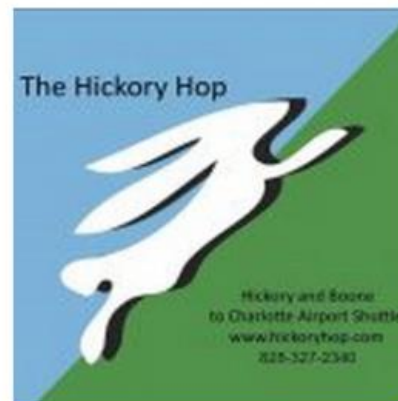
SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

LINDA MEARES-Agent/Broker Coldwell-Banker

Linda Mears joined Newcomers in mid-2019 and says she has been a Hickory resident for over 30 years. She and her husband have raised English Pointers and showed Hackney ponies, and she has been in Real Estate for 13 years. Some of her accomplishments are being a Diamond Award Winner for 7 of the last 8 yrs. A Diamond Award is given to the top 10% of all agents in Coldwell Banker based on office size. Linda treasures her clients and tries to maintain a relationship with them over the years. She is always easy to reach, call, text or email: Mobile: 828-612-7386 Location: 127 1st Ave NE, Hickory, 28601 lindameares@CBBH.com New nest, Empty nest...give her a call, she can help!!



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The logo for Life Enrichment, Inc. TRAVEL features the word "TRAVEL" in large, bold, 3D letters. Each letter contains a different scenic landscape image. Above the letters, "Life Enrichment, Inc." is written in a script font.

Mike Sigmon
President
mcsigmon69@gmail.com

404-277-7369 - Cell
226 44th Avenue NW
Hickory, NC 28601

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The logo for Hickory Heating & Cooling features a stylized flame icon above the text "HICKORY HEATING & COOLING" in a bold, sans-serif font.

Todd Hagee
(Owner)

828-612-4988
828-679-1067 (Office)

hickoryheatingandcooling@gmail.com
hickoryheatingandcooling.com

LOP 21197

The logo for Auto Fitness Center Inc. features a stylized car icon above the text "AUTO FITNESS CENTER INC" in a bold, sans-serif font.

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AUTOFITNESSCENTER.NET

The logo for Attitude Salon features the word "attitude" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, with a stylized sunburst or fan-like graphic behind it.

a full service salon

Alan Elrod
owner/stylist

204 Union Square
Hickory, NC 28601
salon 828.327.9010
cell 828.640.6360

Officers, Directors, Activity Chairs and Committees 2020 - 2021

Officers	Position
Cathi Montgomery	President
Rob Herman	Vice President
Kathy Rozea	Treasurer
Chris Beckom	Secretary
Delilah Bragg	Past President
Directors	
	Amy Chizen
	Nancy Geiger
	Adra Kryszczuk
	Vacancy
Activity	Chair
Book Club	Mary Bucy, Donna McDermott
Bowling	Vince LeGrand
Bridge	Gloria Berg
Canasta and Games Day	* * * * * Position Available * * * * *
Canasta and Games Night	Adra Kryszczuk, Addie and Lonny McSherley
Charity Coordinator	Nancy Geiger
Coffee & Conversation	Sheri Binning
Dominoes	* * * * * Position Available * * * * *
Events Committee	Amy Chizen (chair), Chris Beckom, Dottie Demarest, 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	Francine Gissy
MahJongg	Dianne Straley
Membership	Rob Herman
Members Helping Members	Sandi Johnson, Hazel Poppe
Newsletter Editor	Brenda Ireland
Programs	Dianne Straley
Publicity	Amy Chizen
Rummikub	Michele LeGrand
Samba Day	* * * * * Position Available * * * * *
Samba and Games Night	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.....

**What do
you call a
magic dog?**

A labracadabrador.

