

Newcomers of Catawba Valley

2425 North Center St #169
Hickory, NC 28601
Web: www.newcomersofcv.org

January 2022

"Volunteering is a great way to bring positive change to people, communities and society in general. Although it can be hard to find time to volunteer, giving to others has enormous benefits to you and those around you."

President's Column – Cathi Montgomery



Hello Newcomers!



I hope that everyone had a fabulous Christmas holiday and are looking forward to a fantastic 2022. Welcome to our new members and thank you to everyone for supporting the organization.

Board of Directors elections were held in December and your 2022 BOD is as follows:

President - Cathi Montgomery

Vice-President - Rob Herman

Secretary - Karen Mills

Treasurer - Kathy Rozea

BOD Director - Adra Kryszczuk

BOD Director - Amy Chizen

BOD Director - Nancy Geiger

BOD Director - Kathy Kuehn

A big thanks from me to the 2021 BOD! You are all fabulous and are great leaders in the future of the NCV!

WE HAVE A NEWLETTER EDITOR VOLUNTEER! Thank you, Susan Mata! And you are receiving the first newsletter of 2022!

AND WE ALSO HAVE A PROGRAMS CHAIR VOLUNTEER! Thank you, Kathy Kuehn!

There are still more volunteers needed!! A list is attached below.
REMEMBER, WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS THERE IS NO ORGANIZATION.
Please consider volunteering for an open position.

As of our December 2021 BOD meeting, we had 52 new members sign up for the NCV this year, so far. We currently have a total of 323 NCV members!

Our next **General meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, January 12, 2022**, at 10:30 am at the Hickory Airport meeting room. Our speaker is Terry Clark, Manager, Hickory Regional Airport. Terry will share with us the future plans for the Airport and how it will affect our community.

The quarterly charity is the HICKORY SOUP KITCHEN. Nancy Geiger is our Charity Chair and has more information in the newsletter. The executive director of the Soup Kitchen, Austin Pearce, will be at our January 12th meeting and will say a few words.

Our December 8th Holiday Open House at the Hickory Airport was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all that attended.

January 7th 2022, is our Winter Holiday Party. It will be held in a private room at Duke's Restaurant at Market on Main, with a sit-down dinner, music, and other fun surprises. The cost will be only \$25.00 per person. We have over 60 people attending so far. There is still time to sign up! Jan 2nd is the deadline. Contact our Social Chair, Amy Chizen, if you would like to attend. Looking forward to seeing you there.

NCV membership renewal is coming up in the early part of 2022. PLEASE let us know if you do not intend to renew your membership. We understand that some folks won't renew, and if you let us know, we won't keep bothering you about renewal.

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

As always...stay safe and healthy...Happy New Year!

Blessings,

Cathi Montgomery
President, NCV

NCV ACTIVITY CHAIR VACANCIES & DUTIES (January 2022)

NEEDED NOW - LUNCH-OUT/DINNER OUT PARTNER. Francine Gissy is currently handling this activity alone. We are looking for a partner who can help Francine, and who can specifically handle the planning and arranging of lunches/dinners November through April. Francine is comfortable handling these event May through October. These events are great for enjoying different restaurants in the area and meeting with other NCV members.

NEEDED NOW - TEAM CUISINE PARTNER. Jon Kiser and Chris Almeida have been the Team Cuisine chairs up until now. Chris has decided to resign from this position, so we are looking for another to partner up with Jon Kiser of this event. Team Cuisine is a cooperative effort to elevate one's routine cooking and dining. This experience offers dining in a fellow NCV member's home, putting first-timers and long-time friends together for an evening of relaxation and conversation around great food.

THESE CHAIRS ARE NEEDED

CANASTA AND GAMES DAY

DOMINOES

MAHJONGG (IN-PERSON GAMES)

SAMBA DAY (needed for May - September)

SAMBA AND GAMES NIGHT

The duties of Canasta and Games Day, Dominoes, Mahjong, Samba Day and Samba and Games Night are all basically the same:

Events are at the Hickory Airport meeting room.

Select a menu and confirm it and price with Crosswind Cafe

Send out announcement emails for the game about 2 weeks in advance followed with a reminder email the week before

Take reservations and confirm

Ensure that all tables are even (filled), take a wait list if needed

Make a check-in list for the event

Set the room up for activity (arrive at least 30 minutes prior to start time)

Collect monies at event and check in all participants

Provide rotation cards, as needed

Ensure that all equipment is returned to the cabinets and that the cabinets are locked.

Evening events lock up the airport

Officers, Directors, Activity Chairs and Committees 2022

Officers	Position
Cathi Montgomery	President
Rob Herman	Vice President
Kathy Rozea	Treasurer
Karen Mills	Secretary
Delilah Bragg	Past President
Directors	
	Amy Chizen
	Nancy Geiger
	Adra Kryszczuk
	Kathy Kuehn
Activity	Chair
Book Club	Laura Moran
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), Cyd Acolia, 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 (May-Oct.), ***Position Available*** (Nov.-Apr.)
Mahjongg	* * * * * Position Available * * * * *
Membership	Rob Herman
Members Helping Members	Sandi Johnson, Hazel Poppe
Newsletter Editor	Susan Mata
Programs	Kathy Kuehn
Publicity	Amy Chizen
Rummikub	Michele LeGrand
Samba Day	Elizabeth Strickland (Apr.-Sep.), ***Position Available*** (Oct.-Mar.)
Samba and Games Night	Audrey Rozzelle
Shooting Practice	Vince LeGrand
Sponsors	Kevin McCutcheon
Team Cuisine	Jon Kiser ***Position Available*** (co-chair)
Webmaster Team	Adra Kryszczuk (site and calendar), Greg Gervasio (site advisor)



A Message from the NCV Membership VP

Rob Herman

“Learn from yesterday, live for today and hope for tomorrow.”

– Albert Einstein

A new year and New Beginnings are in order, and you

are bound to feel some level of excitement as NCV opportunities come your way. 2022 is a painting not yet painted, a path not yet stepped on, a newcomer's activity you have yet participated in. Try something new in all the activities we are opening up as we say farewell to Covid and welcome 2022 with life and gusto.

As we review 2021, we are amazed how our membership has grown. Our newest members sloughed off the doom sayers and step out to live life, full of its excitement and risks and joined Newcomers of Catawba Valley. In December of 2021, we have reached the highest levels of club membership ever with 324 members. 2021 saw record growth with 53 new members.

As I review the new applications with many new activity ideas, we can expect some great events we haven't seen as well as the old standbys. As a member, you have 323 friends who want to do something with you.

Don't be afraid to start a new NCV activity. A simple request to the board to list your activity on the calendar and an email to your club membership and suddenly you and your new found friends could be Beer Tasting in your RV's while flying your Drones over Lake Hickory. Make a resolution to try a new NCV activity in 2022 or better yet start one. If interested in a new activity contact a board member. We are currently updating the guidelines. Stay tuned for more news.



"No act of kindness no matter how small is ever wasted" - Aesop

CHARITY NEWS



Greetings and Happy 2022 to you all!

First, THANK YOU for all the toys you donated to the **Toys for Tots** program! The club will also be sending them a check in the next week or so for the money raised with our raffles.

This first quarter of the new year our charity is the **Hickory Soup Kitchen** and there are several ways we will be supporting them:

1. We will be collecting items: canned foods (vegetables, beans, fruit), packages of rice and pasta and dog food at each of our monthly membership meetings. You may also bring soap for their shower ministry.
2. Money from raffles at each monthly meeting
3. Volunteering: The Soup Kitchen can always use flexible volunteers between 8 am and 12:30 every weekday for however much time the person can give – even a spare hour is great. This could be for prepping food for lunch, bagging food in the pantry to give out, greeting and handing out masks and counting guests during the lunches, helping bring food to people during the lunch who can't stand long enough to go through the serving line, helping wash dishes, etc. Most of the slots in the serving lines are filled with regulars, but there is ***always*** a need for subs, so you can call and get on that list. (FYI usually subs only get a day or two notice)
4. And of course, you can always write a check! Please send it to our club treasurer Kathy Rozea, made out to: Newcomers of Catawba County, with Soup Kitchen in the memo line. 2425 N Center Street #169, Hickory, NC 28601

The executive director, Austin Pearce will be at our January 12th general meeting to say a few words. I've volunteered there for many years, and he is one of the hardest workers I've ever met. He knows all the folks who come through the line and does 110% to help them in the best way possible. I'm excited for you all to meet him!

For those who would like to help in the Food Pantry, do Food Prep, or help in the dining room, please call Bonnie Salisbury at 828-327-4828 (Please consider trying this – I really think once you do, you'll be hooked. It's a great place to volunteer if you really want to feel useful. (And it's fun!))

For those who would like to be on a substitute list to serve the food please call Pam Hale at 828-244-1549

And please tell them you are with the Newcomers of Catawba Valley – and shoot me an email letting me know what you've done over there (and how much you enjoyed it!) ng0425@gmail.com

Nancy Geiger
NCV Charity Chair



SPONSORSHIP CORNER

Our Newcomers do so much together and for the community. Sponsorship is vital component to the Newcomer's membership offerings, and it helps fund the charities that we support each quarter. Currently our sponsorship activity is very stable, with approximately two dozen local businesses and individuals supporting our efforts. Our renewal rate is excellent. But I think we can secure more support. The manner in which our Marine Corps League obtains sponsors for our annual charity golf tournament, which the NCV are a long-time sponsor of, is as an organization. Each member of our detachment obtains sponsors by simply talking about the League and the golf event through their everyday activities and business. And it works because if you have something great it's easy to sell. The NCV can do the same. Get the word out about how great our Newcomers group is. If you know of someone or a business that might be a potential sponsor, please let me know and I'll engage them. "It takes a village."

Happy New Year,

Kevin McCutcheon
NCV Sponsorship Chair



SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Our newest sponsor is The Natural Olive, owned by Noelle and Josh Walker. Located in a great location on our Union Square, The Natural Olive is an Olive oil and Vinegar store. It is home to 100% Extra Virgin Olive Oil and vinegars Infused with all natural flavors for any culinary enthusiast! The Natural Olive is like walking into a charming Italian Olive Oil Store. Everything is right at your disposal, from the 50 varieties of fresh oils to the vibrant taste of fresh balsamic vinegars. All oils and vinegars are displayed in canisters called fusti's. The fusti's are saddled side by side on old wood shelving. We have fresh baked ciabatta breads for the customer to use in tasting the oils and vinegar's throwing their senses into overdrive. The aroma of fresh baked breads mixed with the flavors of oils and vinegars filling the air will send you into a Tuscany dream. The high ceilings set off the store's lighting bringing the mood in perfectly. This paired with rustic exposed brick walls and fabulous old, knotted floors will make you want to sing along to Dean Martin's "Mambo Italiano" that's playing in the store! The Natural Olive now carries a great selection of wines and wine accessories. Their most recent addition is gelato. Pay them a visit and thank them for their sponsorship.





Welcome New Members!

September

Susan and Ray Mata from TX
Linda and Brian DeGraw from NY
Gypsy and Mike Spencer from TN
Ed Farthing from NC

October

Bonnie and Skip Houghtling from NY
Kenny McComb from FL
Jennifer Hewitt from FL
Kathy Patrick from CT
Karlene Patrick from CT
Lynne and William Hill from FL
Nancy Schultz from DE
Kathy and Karl Kuehn from MO
Joanne Paradine NY

November

Renee and Robert Barnette from NC
Dawn Ross from CA
Ron Downs from NC
Cindy and Dave Zook from VA
Christine Gagnon from NC
John Brophy from UK

December

Joan Lamanna from GA
Carla and Dan Hinceman from DE
Revonda Wilson from NC
Laura Gansrow from NY
Novella Parris from MD
Sharodlee and Ken Kuchen
Jessica Spears from NC



January Birthdays

01 Lee Wagoner
02 Becky Thomas
02 John Montgomery
04 Patcy Lang
07 Eric Koch
07 Wil Mullins
07 Hedy Paussa
07 Laura Moran
07 Debbie Kelso
10 Miki Valkanoff
15 Tim Knobloch
16 David Martin
16 Kevin McCutcheon
17 Gail Miller
21 Barb Beck
22 Bryan Wood
23 Royce Dunn
23 Betty Stone
23 Sue Bumgarner
26 Deb Nielsen
27 Sue Asp
28 Bob Connor
29 Ginny Heinrich
29 Steve Womack
30 Mary Ellen Glover
30 Carolyn Eanes
30 Edie Ashman



February Birthdays

01 Larry Laufer
03 Cheryl Powell
03 Marcy Hill
06 Vicki Mullins
06 Kenny McComb
08 Susan Fontyn
09 Marje Wells
09 Phyllis Polo
10 Donna Barger
11 Barbara Laufer
15 Gypsy Spencer
16 Ron Kapnick
17 Renee Barnette
18 Bill Lane
19 Peg Baldwin
20 Steven Berg
21 Joyce Walker
21 Sheila Cooke
24 Cathie Lane
26 Iris Sechriest
28 Beth Keane



Lunch Out

Let's do lunch! We'll visit local Southern restaurant **The Fresh Depot** on **January 13 at 11:30 a.m.** This restaurant features a varied menu with prices averaging \$8-10 with Senior and daily specials. Check out their menu at <https://www.facebook.com/TheFreshDepotLLC/>. It's been a while since we went out and, while we're looking for someone to share the load with Francine, I decided to take on January. **R.S.V.P. to Adra Kryszczuk at adraellen@yahoo.com.**
R.S.V.P. deadline is Tuesday, January 9 at noon.

January Coffee

This month for the January Coffee we will go to **Camp Coffee, 522 Mulberry St SW in Lenoir** (across from the hospital). We will be there on the last Friday of the month, and that will be **January 28th**. We'll meet at **1:30 pm** because they close a bit early. Come out, drink some coffee and visit with us!



Team Cuisine

Team Cuisine is gearing up for 2022 with five meals planned, beginning with February's whimsical menu, "Castaways' Feast."

We have had very successful dinners with as many as 52 members dining together at six homes, all enjoying the same menu and recipes.

In order to make that happen we need hosts and menu planners lined up before each meal. The good news...February is all set!

Please watch for future guest sign up requests, and contact the current chairperson, **Jon Kiser** if you would like information on how **Team Cuisine** works. Jon is also looking for a co-chair for this committee so if interested please contact Jon Kiser.

Jon Kiser – jaydeekay59@gmail.com

BOWLING



Newcomers Bowling takes place at Pin Station in Newton every Wednesday evening. The cost is \$8.00 per person for 3 games of bowling. We start bowling at 6:30 pm with a 10-minute practice session starting at 6:20 pm. If you wish to bowl, please contact Vince LeGrand at legravin@gmail.com so the appropriate number of lanes can be reserved. There are no teams. Everyone bowls for fun to socialize and get a little bit of exercise. All skill levels participate. Hope you join us!

CANASTA AND GAMES NIGHT

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at the first Games Night of 2022! Join us at the Hickory Regional Airport at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 11. We offer Canasta, Chicken Foot Dominoes, or Rummikub. Come have dinner and play the game of your choice. Cards and games will be provided. An individually packed dinner, decaf coffee, water and iced tea, SERVED PROMPTLY AT 5:30 p.m. SAMBA IS **NOT** OFFERED. I will confirm your request to play as we fill tables of four. We are looking forward to another fun-filled evening this month. Please note on your R.S.V.P. the game you wish to play, a second choice if possible and if you will be having dinner. Cost is \$10 per person. If you don't want to have dinner, you can play cards and enjoy beverages for only \$5. We must pay the caterer for each meal ordered, so if you make reservations and do not cancel before the deadline of 10:00 a.m. Sunday, you still must pay the charge! Don't know how to play? There is always a Canasta learning table offered for those who want to learn or simply brush up on their skills. All Newcomer members are welcome. Reserve your spot with Adra Kryszczuk at adraellen@yahoo.com.

SAMBA DAY

The first Samba Day of 2022 will be held at the Hickory Regional Airport on Thursday, January 27! An Individually packed Lunch, coffee, water and iced tea is SERVED PROMPTLY at 11:30 a.m. CANASTA IS **NOT** OFFERED. I will confirm your request to play as we fill tables of four. An afternoon of fun-filled Samba is \$10. If you don't want to have lunch, you can play cards and enjoy beverages for only \$5. We must pay the caterer for each meal ordered, so if you make reservations and do not cancel before the deadline of 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, you still must pay the charge! 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 are welcome. We will start play promptly at noon, so please be considerate of others and get to the airport on time. Reserve your spot with Adra Kryszczuk at adraellen@yahoo.com.

BRIDGE

January

Monday, Jan. 3rd

Wednesday, Jan. 5th

Monday, Jan. 10th

Monday, Jan. 17th

Wednesday, Jan. 19th

Gloria Berg

Gloria Berg

Adra Kryszczuk

Carol Parker

Susan Perkins



The Special Events Committee (SEC) is kicking off 2022 with a bang, so strap on your running shoes and join us for fun and adventures!



We are down to the wire for the **Winter Party** reservations. As a quick reminder, the party will be on **Friday, January 7th** at **Duke's Restaurant**, starting at **6:30 PM**. The cost is \$25 per person, which includes a plated meal, entertainment, 2 drinks, and lots of fun! If you have not reserved a spot, call Amy Chizen (860) 428-6786, or Cathi Montgomery (703) 509-6821 by **January 2nd at 5:00 PM**. Meal requests will be sent to Duke's on January 4th. If you have already made your reservation, you will be receiving a confirmation email shortly. ***Please note: There are no refunds.***



Very first on the agenda is an SEC meeting to get organized! This meeting is open to all members and we welcome your input and participation. Because we are in the process of getting this committee organized again, there can be some adjustment to the dates and times of our meet at the **Patrick Beaver Memorial Library in Hickory** on **Tuesday, January 11th** from **1:00-3:00 PM**. We are



meeting in the large meeting room on the first floor. This room is located on the right as you walk in the front door (before you enter the actual Library room.) There will be a sign outside the room as well. Topics of discussion will include: Beer and Wine Tasting on January 21st; Afternoon Tea in February at the Hickory Art Museum; possible local trips and/or another full-day trip; and other activities for 2022. So, bring your ideas and enthusiasm and let's see what we do and where we go in the coming year!

You asked for it: we planned it! Our first activity of the year will be a **Beer and Wine Tasting**! This event will be on **Friday, January 21st** at **Novels Taproom** in Newton, NC. We have reserved the private room upstairs (note: there are about 5 steps to reach the second floor)



beginning at **5:00 PM**. Attendees will order at the bar and are responsible for their own tab. There are many, many wines, ales, ciders and beers to choose from and you can request a "taste," a



"half-glass," a "pint," a "flight," or a "glass." Taste a couple, taste a few, taste a lot, or stick with a favorite, the choice is yours. To enhance our tasting experience, we ask that everyone bring snack to share. We will have tables for setting out the food. The Club will provide plates, napkins, and silverware. What do you like with your beer? Pretzels? Chips? Popcorn? Veggies and dip? Meatballs? You decide and bring it along! Hope to see you there.

Amy Chizen
NCV Special Events Chair

Newcomers Photos...Strike a pose!

Catawba River Antique Mall in Belmont, NC



Names from left to right: **Linda McGrew, Amy Chizen, Nancy Schultz, Cathi Montgomery, Roxanne Hibbs, Deb Nielson, Bonnie Houghtling, Cyd Acolia, Dawn Ross, and not pictured, Cathie Lane.**

On November 16th, we traveled to Catawba River Antique Mall in Belmont, NC! We peeked and poked through lots of merchandise stalls, some antique items, some boutique items, some new items, some just new to us items. We all came home with something new.

Following our shopping, we headed to Jekyl and Hyde for a hearty lunch. A wonderful time was had by all!

Watch for our next shopping adventure!

AR Workshop is a boutique studio that offers hands on classes for creative custom home décor. Workshops are instructor led where you can make wood plank signs, canvas pillows, framed signs and much more!

On October 7th three of us ventured out on a rainy day to explore our own creative abilities at the AR Workshop. ***Pictured left to right are Amy Chizen, Susan Mata, and Cathi Montgomery.***

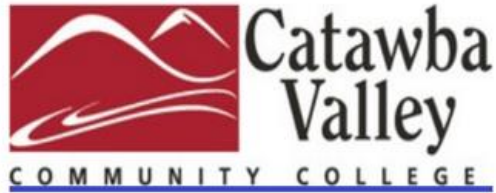
AR Workshop is located on the Square in downtown Historic Hickory.

AR Workshop Downtown Hickory, NC



If anyone has photos of a Newcomers event or meeting they would like to share, please forward your photos to Susan Mata at susemata55@gmail.com and I'll make sure it is added to the newsletter. I will be at the next general meeting and will be taking photos that day. So, I'll see you there!

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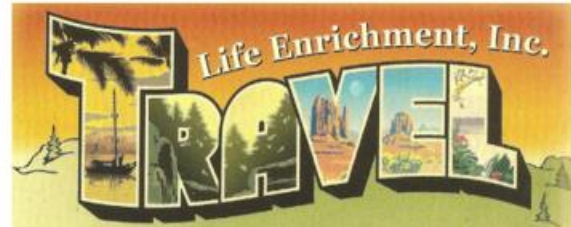


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