



The Voice

Newcomers of Catawba Valley Newsletter
2525 North Center Street #169, Hickory, NC 28601
www.newcomersofcv.com

President's Column

Welcome to February! Well, it's out of the frying pan and into the fire for me. Thank you for your confidence in electing me president. I will do my best to live up to my past predecessors.

Taking on the presidency requires that I must give up a few of the roles that I currently hold, so I'm looking for:

1. Someone to take the **google calendar and update members**. The basic responsibilities would be to keep the club calendar current, post weekly activities email and post event photos to the club's website.
2. Someone to take **Canasta and Games**. This can be either a daytime or evening event. I'd be happy to share the requirements.

I am so pleased to welcome my new board; **Debbie Hindman** as Vice President, **Sonya Reid** as Treasurer, **Sharon Snellings** as Secretary and Directors **Nancy Geiger**, **Evie Gibson**, **Rob Herman** and **Kathy Rozea**. Please be sure to thank them when you see them. **Cathi Montgomery** will remain on the board as past president.

In addition to the above listed openings, there are several others as you'll see on the list further in the newsletter. Our club is now over 300 strong with members of all ages and interests. As the threat of COVID has lessened, many are more willing to engage in activities, so help is needed. Please keep in mind that help can be a one-time event!

We are rapidly approaching the end of our fiscal year (March 31) so a gentle reminder to pay your dues. Dues are \$15 per person. Make your checks payable to NCV and mail to:

Newcomers of Catawba Valley
2425 North Center Street, #169
Hickory NC 28601

There are lots of fun things to do as a Newcomer. Hoping I'll see you at some of the events this month.

Adra Krupczuk



The group at the Newcomers' New Members Meet and Greet.



- **Program Chair: Kathy Kuehn** kecen325@yahoo.com

"Choosing the Right Plant for the Right Place at the Right Time "will be the topic, Doug Bradham, Catawba County Master Gardner, President will speak about at our upcoming February 8th Newcomers General Meeting. Whether you are a vegetable or flower gardener or both, you will take home information to help you get your gardens ready. Bring your questions for David. See you soon.

- **Book Club Chair: Laura Moran** moran.laura@att.net

The next meeting of the Book Club will be held on Wednesday, March 22nd, 2023, at 1:30 PM at the Women's Resource Center in Hickory. The book for our March discussion is Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus: NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • GOOD MORNING AMERICA BOOK CLUB PICK A must-read debut! Meet Elizabeth Zott: a "formidable, unapologetic and inspiring" (PARADE) scientist in 1960s California whose career takes a detour when she becomes the unlikely star of a beloved TV cooking show in this novel that is "irresistible, satisfying, and full of fuel. It reminds you that change takes time and always requires heat" (The New York Times Book Review). "A unique heroine ... you'll find yourself wishing she wasn't fictional." —Seattle Times Chemist *Elizabeth Zott is*

*not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results. But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo. Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, *Lessons in Chemistry* is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.* The Book Club meets every other month on the 4th Wednesday of the month except for November when we meet on the third Wednesday.

- **Bowling Chair: Vince LeGrand** legravin@gmail.com



The Newcomers Bowling Season began at the beginning of October 2022 and will conclude on March 23, 2023. We bowl at Pin Station in Newton on Business 321 across from Catawba County Government Center. Bowling is every Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. with practice starting at 6:20 p.m. The cost is \$8.00 per person to bowl 3 games. For those of you not familiar with Newcomers Bowling, we do not have teams. Bowlers of all experience levels and ability are welcome. We bowl to socialize and get a little exercise. If you don't have your own ball and shoes, Pin Station has a large selection of balls that you can use for free, and shoe rentals are inexpensive. If you are interested in or have question about Newcomers Bowling, please contact the chair.

- **Bridge Chair: Gloria Berg** glomcberg@hotmail.com

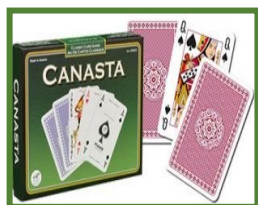
FEBRUARY Bridge Hosts

| | | | |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Wed. Feb. 1st | Gloria Berg | Wed. Feb. 15th | Helen Woodyard |
| Monday, Feb. 6th | Helen Woodyard | Monday, Feb. 20th | Carol Parker |
| Monday, Feb. 13th | Pett Brands | | |



- **Canasta & Games Day Chair: NEED COODINATOR -- HELP**

Canasta and Games is held at the Hickory Regional Airport and **a coordinator (or two or three) is needed**. You can eat and play the game of your choice. Canasta, Rummikub, Dominoes, Pinochle, Cribbage, Mahjongg, Board Games, or you pick it! Most game components will be provided. Please bring any other game you want to play. Get your group together or just come on out and try a new game. Play includes a catered meal SERVED PROMPTLY AT 11:30 a.m. **OR** 5:30 p.m., cost is \$11. If you don't want to eat, you can enjoy games and 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 \$11 charge! **Who's up to take a chance and meet new friends?** Training will be provided!



This event needs a coordinator. It is generally scheduled on the first Tuesday each month. Canasta has been the primary offering, but it is open to **any** game that members would like to play. Lately there has been some interest in Cribbage and Mahjongg. The event can be held during the day or in the evening and can be scheduled any day that does not already have a conflict. If you would like more information on the process, please contact the president, Adra Kryszczuk at adraellen@yahoo.com.

- **Charity Chair: Nancy Geiger ng0425@gmail.com**

Our Nest Diaper Pantry is our quarterly charity. It was established in September 2021 with a grant and a community diaper drive it is part of the children's' resource center. The pandemic exacerbated the current need for a community diaper bank. The pantry was established to end diaper need in our community and allow for young children to grow and thrive in a clean and healthy environment while also communicating other helpful programs to parents with young children. Parents can receive a packet of 20 diapers, wipes (when available), parenting information, and access to a family support specialist to assist with community referrals up to twice per month at The Children's Resource Center at 738 4th St SW Hickory, NC 28602. They are open Monday- Friday from 8a.m.-5p.m. Parents can call ahead to have the diapers ready for pick up, the number to Our Nest is 828-695-6517. The Children's Resource Center itself strives to be an information clearinghouse on child and family resources. They provide not only parent referrals and support, but also information on what programs are available in the community and how to access those resources. They work closely with agencies and child/family programs in a collaborative effort to reach the Smart Start goal of every Catawba County child being healthy and ready to learn upon entry into kindergarten. They can assist parents with finding an agency that can help with a specific need. WEBSITE FOR MORE

INFO childrenresourcecenter.org or catawbkids.com or the January Newsletter (online).

Again, thank you all for such a great kick-off to the year!

About - Newcomers of Catawba Valley general membership meeting. On Wednesday, January 11th

Just wanted to say another thank you to your group! Last night, Our Nest received over 1,000 diapers and 49 packages of wipes. A thank you just isn't enough! Holly Aldridge, Family Support Specialist

• **Chatty Crafters Chair: Adra Kryszczuk adraellen@yahoo.com**

Chatty Crafters, the club's craft group, meets in member's homes on the first and third Friday of each month. Anyone is welcome to attend whenever they are available. Bring your craft with you to work on: knitting, crochet, needlework, jewelry-making, or whatever or just come to visit. ***There is a minor time change for February 3.*** We'll meet at 11 a.m. and our hostess this month is Linda DeGraw, 277 Gentle and Smith Road, Taylorsville. Please R.S.V.P. to Linda (teach1999@gmail.com) so she can plan for enough chairs. The hostess will provide coffee, tea and water.



The start time for February 17 is 10:00 a.m. If someone else would like to host it on Tuesday afternoons, That's another option. We crafters are always ready to work on our latest project! So, gather up your project and join us for conversation and comradery! Questions? Contact Adra Kryszczuk at adraellen@yahoo.com.

* **Coffee & Conversation Chair: Sheri Binning ronald.binning@gmail.com**

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. This month we'll visit Narrow Coffee & Nosh, 13 North College Avenue, Newton at 1:00 p.m. for lunch. They feature NC roasted coffees, teas, pastries, quiches, bagels, paninis, salads, and soups. Check out https://www.facebook.com/people/Narrow-Coffee-Nosh/100034425525508/?paipv=0&eav=AfacA3S4eKiQbOEitrgJK4lpnnqjwj_sXWu_HdeaHxdS_5vGpMoPoVhkPyFQQRuck1w&_rdr Let Sheri Binning know if you can come or just show up, ronald.binning@gmail.com.

- **Lunch Out Chair: Debbie Kelso** dkelso528@gmail.com

The February Lunch Out is scheduled for Thursday, February 9th from 11:30a.m.- 1:30 p.m. at Player's Ridge Restaurant, 1157 Players Ridge Road in Oliver's Landing, Hickory (Bethlehem). I read positive reviews that said there is a newer chef who is very good with an expanded and varied menu. You can preview their menu at www.playersridge.com. There is plenty of parking and the restaurant is accessible for those with mobility issues. Please R.S.V.P. by Monday, February 6th through email, phone (716-480-1606) or text. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

- **Members Helping Members Chair: Sandi Johnson** ncvalegirl@gmail.com

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; meals, walking the dog, help with errands and meals, shopping; transportation for shopping and doctor visits; providing books and/or reading to someone; preparing meals; sending cards, etc.



- **Beer Tasting Chair: Karlene Patrick** karlene.patrick@yahoo.com

February Beer Tasting will at Lowe's Foods in Viewmont 6:30 p.m. on Friday February 3rd. \$4 beer flights. Cider and wine are also available. Please bring your ideas for places to visit so I can use that to plan out our year.

- **New Members - Welcome to our newest members!**

Danielle Filo and Jeffrey Berg from MA
 Kimberly Daly from CA
 Joanne Daly from CA
 Kathy and Don Eichelberger from MD
 Nichole Noel from FL
 Lisa and Brian "Bee" Watts from NC
 Constance Willis from NC
 Karen Pawluk from SC
 Rhonda Roederer and Brian Broussard from LA



Let's give them a warm welcome the next time you see them. 😊

- **Sponsor Spotlight**



Kiser Eye Care
Dr. Melanie S. Kiser
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In Valley Hills Mall

A healthier new year starts with healthy eyes, and there's no better time to schedule your yearly eye exam with Kiser Eye Care. Owned and operated by Dr. Melanie Kiser, Kiser Eye Care is the local eye

doctor to see for all your eye care needs in Hickory, NC. As your local Hickory optometrist, Kiser Eye Care can help diagnose, treat, and detect subtle changes in your eyes year over year. A native of Charlotte, Dr. Kiser has been a practicing Optometrist for over 30 years, starting her first practice in 1992. She moved to Hickory in 2007 and opened her business adjacent to Lens Crafters in the mall. Come visit her offices at 1960 Highway 70 Southeast Hickory, NC 28602 and let her help you see and look your best. Her doctors are here to provide the professional eye care near you, to guarantee you have the clearest vision. As Melanie touts, "we deliver the latest innovation for a precise picture of your eye health. You can trust us to provide expert eye exams with personalized care all year long. Become a client of Kiser Eye Care and thank Dr. Kiser for her sponsorship.

- **Rummikub Chair: Debbie Hindman debbiehindman2022@gmail.com**

Rummikub will be held in my home, 4637 9th St NE, Hickory, on Sunday Feb. 19. at 2p.m.-4p.m. Refreshments will be served but you are welcomed to bring something to share too. Rummikub is a tile game of numbers from 1-13 and 4 colors. You make runs of numbers in the same colors or 4 of a kind in the 4 different colors. It's easy and only takes a moment to learn. Play can be 2-6 people. Don't hesitate to come give it a try.



Cribbage and other games will be played at the Hickory Airport on Monday Feb. 20. at 6p.m. with dinner being offered at 5:30 p.m. We need a minimum of 8 dinners paid for to be able to have the room for free, otherwise they will charge a use fee of the room. Dinner menu will come out in the email reminder. Other games can include Mahjong, dominos, rummikub. Cribbage is a card game for 2, 3 or 4 players and a pegging board is used to keep score. If you can add to 15 and 31, you can learn and play cribbage. There will be a learning table and tables for play for those who already know how to play. Come join the fun.

- **Samba Night Chair: Adra Kryszczuk adraelen@yahoo.com**

Evening SAMBA at the Hickory Airport is Thursday, February 23rd. Come and enjoy and evening of playing SAMBA with friends. Dinner starts at 5:30p.m. and SAMBA starts at 6:00p.m. More details will be provided later. Dinner and Samba are \$11 per person. If you don't want to eat, you can enjoy cards and beverages for only \$5--exact change is appreciated! 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. I will confirm your request to play as we fill up tables of four. **If you do not receive a confirmation email from me, call please!! (828-514-6031)** We like to start the game right at 6 p.m., so please be considerate of others and get to the airport on time. We must pay the caterer for each meal ordered, so if you make a

reservation and do not cancel before the deadline of 10 a.m., Tuesday, January 24th, you still must pay the charge!

- **Shredding Event:**

This event will be held on Saturday Feb 11th on the Salt Block, near the Beaver Library—243 Third St NE, from 10 a.m. till noon. **HICKORY)—FREE SHREDDING EVENT AT THE BEAVER MEMORIAL LIBRARY**—Hickory based shredding company ENVIROSHED. will be offering free shredding in the Patrick Beaver Parking Lot from 10 a.m. till 12 p.m. Individuals will be able to shred at no charge up to two boxes. Boxes or bags must be no larger than a banker's box— (10" high, 15" wide, and 24" deep.) Paper clips, staples, manila folders, and credit cards will be allowed. **Items NOT permitted include heavy metals, newspapers, magazines, and plastic.**

- **Special Events: Evie Gibson/Amy Chizen belleislebelle@gmail.com / chizenamy@gmail.com**

To say we are off, and running is an understatement! Thanks to those who came to the Special Events Committee (SEC) meeting. We have lots of events and activities ahead, some oldies but goodies, some oldies with a twist, and some new adventures. We kicked off 2023 events with Art in the Afternoon at the Museum of Art in Hickory. It was well-attended, and all seemed happy with the exhibits and the refreshments afterwards. So many mentioned it being their first time at the Museum, and that's what we're all about! It's so much easier, not to mention more fun, when we go as a group. We hope you will give us suggestions as well as join us on our adventures! So, let's keep the momentum going and move on to February. Next is a new idea suggested by some of our members: Axe Throwing at Patriot Axe Throwing in Hickory! Headed up by Karlene and Kathy Patrick. Watch your email for details. As with all committees, some of our ideas need some help from those of you who are good with certain tools or have information on some places. Here are some of the items we need help with:

- ☐ A hike on the Fonte Flora Trail. We would love to have someone take over hiking as an activity, but in the meantime, we'd settle for this one trail.
- ☐ Flea Markets, area Farmers' Markets and/or unique antique shopping. Which

Some of the events that we are working on include:

- ☐ Crawdads' Game – end of May/early June
- ☐ NASCAR – Anyone know a good place to watch the races?
- ☐ Signs. We need a variety of signs made.

ones are worthwhile. When is the best time to go?

- ☐ Bus transportation for a show or game in Charlotte or Winston-Salem.
- ☐ Weekend activities: do we want them? What activities should we try?
- ☐ Wine and Cheese reception prior to a play in Hickory or Newton
- ☐ Day trip to Korner's Folly in Kernersville, NC
- ☐ Kentucky Derby Party – May 6th
- ☐ Tubbing (not a typo – wait 'til you see this!)
- ☐ Pontoon Party and Annual Picnic combination

We are looking forward to getting some fun activities on the calendar soon! Watch your email, make sure you read The Voice, and attend the General Meetings to keep up on what's happening! See you soon!

- **Team Cuisine Chair: Jon Kiser** jaydeekay59@gmail.com

Team Cuisine will be meeting again in February and March to celebrate Early American cooking. ***We have openings for three guests: I'm looking for two singles for March 19th and a couple for March 25th.*** Please contact me soon if you are interested or if you have any questions. It is a wonderful way to meet new people and the recipes are not too difficult if you know your way around the kitchen. Thanks to our hosts for opening their homes for our February/March Team Cuisine event!



Can anyone identify this DJ? Hear he was wanted for his good music and shoes!

Jon Kiser and Rob Herman



February Birthdays



| Date | Name | Date | Name |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 2.01 | Larry Laufer | 2.16 | Ron Kapnick |
| 2.01 | Cynthia Beeksma | 2.17 | Renee Barnette |
| 2.03 | Marcy Hill | 2.18 | Bill Lane |
| 2.03 | Mary Beth Young | 2.19 | Peg Baldwin |
| 2.05 | Valerie Carpenter | 2.19 | Brian Broussard |
| 2.05 | Valerie Scott | 2.20 | Steven Berg |
| 2.06 | Vicki Mullins | 2.21 | Joyce Walker |
| 2.08 | Susan Fontyn | 2.21 | Sheila Cooke |
| 2.09 | Marje Wells | 2.22 | Jeffrey Berg |
| 2.09 | Phyllis Polo | 2.24 | Cathie Lane |
| 2.10 | Donna Barger | 2.26 | Iris Sechriest |
| 2.11 | Barbara Laufer | 2.26 | Michael Spencer |
| 2.15 | Gypsy Spencer | 2.28 | Beth Keane |
| | | 2.28 | Deb Yocum |

NEWCOMERS' VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:

CANASTA AND GAMES DAY * DOMINOES * MAHJONGG (IN-PERSON GAMES) *
SAMBA DAY

The duties of Canasta and Games Day, Dominoes, Mahjong, Samba Day are all basically the same:
Events are at the Hickory Airport meeting room.

- Select a menu and confirm it and price with Crosswind Café
- 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.



Officers, Directors, Activity Chairs and Committees 2023-2024

| Officers | Position |
|-------------------------|--|
| Adra Kryszczuk | President |
| Debbie Hindman | Vice President |
| Sonya Reid | Treasurer |
| Sharon Snellings | Secretary |
| Cathi Montgomery | Past President |
| Directors | Nancy Geiger, Evie Gibson, Rob Herman, Kathy Rozea |
| Activity | Chairs |
| Book Club | Laura Moran |
| Bowling | Vince LeGrand |
| Bridge | Gloria Berg |
| Canasta and Games Day | ***** Position Available ***** |
| Canasta and Games Night | ***** Position Available ***** |
| Charity Coordinator | Nancy Geiger |
| Coffee & Conversation | Sheri Binning |
| Dominoes | ***** Position Available ***** |
| Events Committee | Evie Gibson (chair), Amy Chizen |
| Items of Interest | Bob Jones |
| Hospitality | Sharon Snellings |
| Lunch out | Debbie Kelso |
| MahJongg | ***** Position Available ***** |
| Membership | Debbie Hindman |
| Members Helping Members | Sandi Shear-Johnson |
| Newsletter Editor | Sandi Shear-Johnson |
| Programs | Kathy Kuehn |
| Publicity | ***** Position Available ***** |
| Rummikub | Debbie Hindman |
| Samba Day | ***** Position Available ***** |
| Samba and Games Night | Kathy Rozea |
| Shooting | Vince LeGrand |
| Sponsors | Kevin McCutcheon |
| Team. Cuisine | Jon Kiser |
| Webmaster Team. | Position Available (calendar) Adra Kryszczuk (members), Greg Gervacio (site advisor) |

Newcomers of Catawba Valley Sponsors



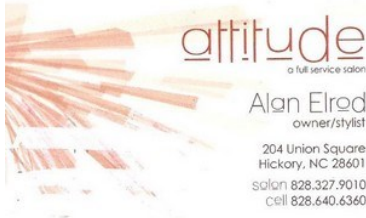
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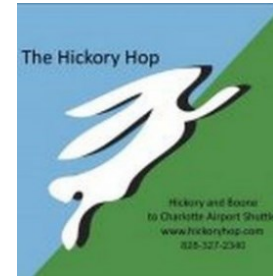
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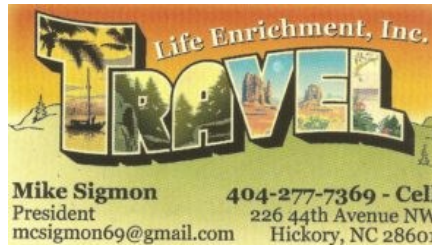


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