



The Voice

Newcomers of Catawba Valley Newsletter
2425 North Center Street #169,
Hickory, NC 28601
www.newcomersofcv.org

President's Column

November brings us a time of gratefulness . . . Veteran's Day, November 11th, is a national holiday in remembrance of those who served and Thanksgiving on November 23rd, a time to come together and celebrate family traditions.

Hard to believe it's only 35 days until Hanukkah and 53 days until Christmas! Wow! This year has just **sped** by. I guess it's true that time flies when you're having fun. For the most part, I have been having fun!

Gearing up for the holiday season, remember that our fourth quarter charity is the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots. Please bring unwrapped gifts for children to the November general meeting or drop them off in the collection bins at the airport. The last day to donate is December 1st.

Also, the United Way Teen Christmas is again looking for Bath & Body and Art Baskets for teen girls and boys. Please contact me if you are willing to help out with baskets. Feel free to call me with any questions and thank you for your continued generosity.

Your Special Events Committee has been hard at work getting a float ready for the Hickory Christmas parade on December 17th. We're hoping to see a whole bunch of members cheering us on from the sidelines.

It's also that time of year when we look for volunteers to serve on the club's Board of Directors. Amy Chizen has graciously agreed to head the nominating committee. We are run by volunteers, so please consider taking on a Board position. You may contact me or Amy with any questions.

Read on for many enjoyable activities scheduled throughout the month of November. I will look forward to seeing some of you at some of these events!



~~~~~Your President

Adra

**Book Club Chair: Laura Moran** [moran.laura@att.net](mailto:moran.laura@att.net)

The next meeting of the Book Club will be held on Wednesday, November 15th, 2023 at 1:30 P.M. at the Women's Resource Center in Hickory. The book for our September discussion will be *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER - The Read With Jenna Today Show Book Club Pick! A story of love and hope as interweaving characters display: how all moments, big and small, can measure a life. If you want joy, love, romance, and hope—read with us. —Jenna Bush Hager

A luminous, spirit-lifting blockbuster that asks: would you choose to find out the length of your life? Eight ordinary people. One extraordinary choice. It seems like any other day. You wake up, pour a cup of coffee, and head out. But today, when you open your front door, waiting for you is a small wooden box. This box holds your fate inside: the answer to the exact number of years you will live. From suburban doorsteps to desert tents, every person on every continent receives the same box. In an instant, the world is thrust into a collective frenzy. Where did these boxes come from? What do they mean? Is there truth to what they promise? As society comes together and pulls apart, everyone faces the same shocking choice: Do they wish to know how long they'll live? And, if so, what will they do with that knowledge? *The Measure* charts the dawn of this new world through an unforgettable cast of characters whose decisions and fates interweave with one another: best friends whose dreams are forever entwined, pen pals finding refuge in the unknown, a couple who thought they didn't have to rush, a doctor who cannot save himself, and a politician whose box becomes the powder keg that ultimately changes everything. Enchanting and deeply uplifting, *The Measure* is a sweeping, ambitious, and invigorating story

The Book Club meets every other month on the 4th Wednesday of the month except for November when we meet on the third Wednesday. Please submit suggestions for 2024 books to me by November 15th. The Book Club will be celebrating our Christmas party on December 13th at Amy Chizen's house following the December general meeting.

**Bowling Chair: Vince LeGrand** [legravin@gmail.com](mailto:legravin@gmail.com)

Newcomers Bowling opened its new season on Wednesday, **October 4<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30p.m. at Pin Station in Newton. Wel bowl every Wednesday (except around holidays) with the season concluding on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Bowlers of all abilities are welcome. Please contact Vince LeGrand ([legravin@gmail.com](mailto:legravin@gmail.com)) if you have any questions. If you have already contacted me, I have you in my roster and email distribution. If you haven't contacted me and want to bowl, contact me A.S.A.P. so I can include you in the roster.

**Bridge Chair: Gloria Berg** [glomcberg@hotmail.com](mailto:glomcberg@hotmail.com)

**NOVEMBER**

|                     |                |                      |               |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Wednesday, Nov. 1st | Carol Parker   | Wednesday, Nov. 15th | Susan Perkins |
| Monday, Nov. 6th    | Helen Woodyard | Monday, Nov. 20th    | Susan Perkins |

**Chatty Crafters Chair: Millie Kaufman** [mkauf188@bellsouth.net](mailto:mkauf188@bellsouth.net)

**November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.**

Chatty Crafters Chair: Chatty Crafters will meet the 1st and 3rd Friday. Anyone is welcome to attend whenever they are available. Bring your craft with you to work on: knitting, crochet, needlework, jewelry-making, or just come to visit. Please R.S.V.P. to Deb Nielsen, at [debmnielsen@hotmail.com](mailto:debmnielsen@hotmail.com), this month, so there are enough chairs.

**Coffee & Conversation Chair: Sheri Binning/** [Ronald.binning@gmail.com](mailto:Ronald.binning@gmail.com)

Because off the holidays we will not be meeting in November or December. See you Next Year.

**Charity Chair: Nancy Geiger** [ng0425@gmail.com](mailto:ng0425@gmail.com)



I didn't have a total for how much our club raised for our 3rd quarter charity (Shining Hope Farms) by the October newsletter, but a check was sent to them for \$1,275.00, That more than pays for a scholarship for a vet! Thanks to everyone who helped with that! We are now a month into our 4th Quarter Charity - the Marine Toys for Tots. The busy time for us as Newcomers is right now!

Boxes to collect new toys are scattered around the county until the first week in December. I'd like to do a big collection at the November 8th General Meeting at the airport, so we can stuff the box there! If you can't make the meeting, you can take your donations to any box or give them to a board member. Here's a little information about them:

The mission of the Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is to assist the U. S. Marine Corps in providing a tangible sign of hope to economically disadvantaged children at Christmas. This assistance includes providing day-to-day leadership and oversight of the Program, raising funds to provide toys to supplement the collections of local Toys for Tots Campaigns, to provide promotional and support material and defray the costs of conducting annual Toys for Tots Campaigns. Local campaigns are generally organized and coordinated by the Marine Corps League Detachments.

GOAL: The primary goal of Marine Toys for Tots is, through the gift of a new toy, help bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children. Website:  
<https://www.toysfortots.org/Default.aspx>.



**Games Chair: Debbie Hindman [Debbiehindman2022@gmail.com](mailto:Debbiehindman2022@gmail.com)**



Games, games, games, will be on **Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>** at 5:30p.m. at Hickory Airport. Games will include but are not limited to, Rummikub, Contract Rummy, (new), Cribbage, Euchre, Mahjong Board games, Dominos, and other card games, EXPECT Samba and Canasta. The Airport asks that at least 10 dinners be purchased to pay for the room. Please R.S.V.P. with choice of game and yes or no to dinner. Please consider joining us for dinner and conversation before game play. The airport does a fine job in making our meals. Games can be Cribbage, Euchre, Dominos, Rummikub, Mahjong, board games, or any other game you may want to play. Euchre

and Mahjong are the best at 4 players/table. Each table decides on how they want to play their games. No uniform rules. Hickory Airport is located at 3101 9th Ave Dr NW. Dinner and games are \$11. Games only \$5. Please R.S.V.P. with game of choice. (So that tables can be filled) And Yes or No to dinner.

**Garden Guru's Co Chairs: Rob Herman/Cindy Zook**

The Garden Gurus will be hosting a wreath making workshop in Amy Chizen's basement on Thursday, November 30th, at 12:30 pm. Due to limited space the number of participants will be limited. Watch your emails for the announcement of when to sign up. It will be very important to follow the instructions for attending the workshop!

**Lunch/Dinner Out Chair: Denise Hogestyn [denise14526@gmail.com](mailto:denise14526@gmail.com)**

Lunch November 9<sup>th</sup> at La Autentica Mexican Restaurant at 1350 US-Highway 321, Hickory at noon. Their website is [order.spoton.com](http://order.spoton.com). There is plenty of parking. Please, remember to email me to let me know you are coming. I must let the restaurant to know how many people are coming. I hope to see you all there. Denise



**Members Helping Members Chair: Sandi Johnson [ncvalegirl@gmail.com](mailto: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 any illness, surgery, hospitalization, death, etc. We can schedule meals for a group of people as well.

Please let me know what you would be willing to help someone with so I can compile a list.

## Welcome our new members:

Richard Blackburn from MA  
Angie Roesner from MI  
Patricia Hudson from FL  
Wendy Twiggs from CA  
Donna Cline from NC  
Wilma Dulla from CA  
Maureen Morgan from AZ

## Looking for people who play 500

500 or Five Hundred is a trick-taking game with some ideas from Bridge. The game described here is for four players. The game is played over a series of hands. Check out rules: Go to [500rules.com](http://500rules.com)  
Questions or information please **contact Shari Kidd 828-838-5275**



**Samba Day Chair: Shari Kidd** [Kidd915sl@gmail.com](mailto:Kidd915sl@gmail.com)



Samba Day is the Second Tuesday of each month. Lunch 11:30a.m. and Samba begins at noon on **Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>**. Please be considerate of other players and arrive on time. Lunch is \$11.00 per person. Beverages include Water and Tea. We are required to pay the caterer for each meal ordered. If you make a reservation and do not cancel before the deadline 6:00p.m. **Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**, you must still pay the charge. Games and Beverages are ONLY \$5.00 per person. DESSERTS: players with last names ending in O-ZN may bring a dessert to share with players. **Samba will be the only game played and there 'Will Not' be a learning table.**

**Samba Night Chair: Kathy Rozea [krr510@yahoo.com](mailto:krr510@yahoo.com)**

Samba is played at the Hickory Regional Airport on the 4th Thursday Evening each month. Our next Evening Samba. Please arrive about 5:15p.m. for registration. **Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup>** is Samba night. Dinner starts at 5:30p.m. and SAMBA starts promptly at 6:00p.m. The menu will be posted

We offer cards and dinner for \$11 per person or cards only (no dinner) for \$5 per person. Sweet and Unsweet Tea is available to all players. We encourage players to suggest any dinner selections that they would like to see offered at future Evening Samba Nights.

We regularly also offer a learning table, for members who would like to learn how to play or to brush up on the skills. All Newcomer's, men, and women, are welcome.

Please contact Kathy Rozea at [krr510@yahoo.com](mailto:krr510@yahoo.com), if you have any questions or would like additional information.

**Shooting Chair: Vince LeGrand [legravin@gmail.com](mailto:legravin@gmail.com)**

Newcomers Shooting has returned! There are 2 shooting sessions per month. On the second Tuesday of each month there will be an evening shooting session at 6:30p.m. There will be an afternoon shooting session on the fourth Thursday of each month at 12 noon. Shooting sessions are held at the Springs Road Gun Club in Hickory. Memberships are available, but you do not have to be a member to participate.

Shooter of all abilities are welcome. Please contact Vince LeGrand ([legravin@gmail.com](mailto:legravin@gmail.com)) if you have any questions. If you have already contacted me, I have you in my roster and email distribution. If you haven't contacted me and want to shoot, please contact me A.S.A.P. so I can include you in the roster.



For November, we will shoot on Tuesday, 11/14 at 6:30p.m. **There will be no second shooting session in November since it would be on Thanksgiving.**



## **Special Event Committee News: Amy Chism**

**SOUPER PARTY! Saturday, November 4th** Hosted by Karlene and Kathy Patrick at 2055 10th Street Place NW, Hickory . We have an afternoon filled with many fun activities. You decide what works best for you!



- **3:30 - 5:00 : Hike**

Take a stroll along the new River Walk in Geitner Park. All the paths are paved with a few inclines, and the views are phenomenal. Walk as much or as little as you want. Meet in the parking lot. You can drop your soup at our house before the hike, we live a street away from the park.

- **5:00 – 8:00 : Soup Party**

Bring a crockpot of your favorite soup to share with the group. The club will provide cups, spoons, crackers and non-alcoholic drinks. BYOB if you prefer something else. Be sure to bring a ladle and any other ingredients that compliment your soup like shredded cheese, sour cream.

- **6:00 – Cornhole Tournament**

Let's have a friendly competition of cornhole! We'll set up the bracket once teams have signed up and simply enjoy some fall weather while playing our favorite game!

- **Dark – Outdoor Fire**

Time to toast some marshmallows and finish the night with a tasty s'more.

## **Teen Christmas Update:**

The Catawba County United Way *Teen Christmas* is preparing for Christmas 2023. Last year you helped us serve 474 teens by preparing 250 of either Bath/Body or Art Baskets. Actually over 250 teens requested baskets showing this is a popular item. We know the teens especially like anything that makes them look and smell good, whether it is nail polish, AXE perfume, shampoo, or make-up! Moms like this gift too. We could not meet the needs of these kids without your help. Attached is the info for making either Bath/Body baskets or Art baskets.



Our team will assemble the empty baskets on Friday, October 27 and make them available to you. We will try to deliver the empty baskets to you if possible. **We need them back at the United Way office by Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>.**

Please reach out to your friends who might be interested in helping teenagers at Christmas. They may be more interested in helping us purchase the other teen toys and clothing by sending a check to: Catawba County United Way Teen Christmas address: Catawba County United Way, PO Box 2425, Hickory, NC 28603. Be sure to put Teen Christmas on the check. Financial support is greatly needed. Thank you so much for your continued support which ensures these teens get valued gifts for Christmas.  
Rose Arant, Teen Christmas Volunteer Coordinator

## Upcoming Activities and Events

**Float Work Session – November 1 st , 1:30-3:30 PM.** We are hoping to put together the gnomes for on the float that day. We will be sewing garland and pom poms on the gnomes' hats and working on their beards and noses. We need to put lights on the small trees and finish the lollipops (we have 1 of 4 done). Come join us! Hike then Souper Part, November 4<sup>th</sup> Hike at Geitner Park beginning at 3:30P.M. drop off crock pot of soup at the Patricks' house, 2055 10th St Place NW, Hickory, then meet in the Park parking area. After the hike, there's a Souper Party at the Patricks' house. If you don't want to hike, that's OK, just bring a crock pot of soup, with a label of what kind it is. If you really aren't into making soup, come anyway and bring some bread or crackers to go with the soup! The club will provide water and dessert. BYOB.

Monday, **November 13 (Tuesday) and the 14th** – Overnight trip to Seagrove, NC. Contact Amy Chizen for details. Still plenty of room!

**Friday, November 17** – Hickory Christmas Parade at 5:30p.m. – We are entering a float this year! The theme is "Getting to Gnome You" and we are progressing at a good pace. Watch for announcements of FLOAT BUILDING TIMES. We have 10 walkers and 2 alternates signed up for walking with the float! Come to downtown Hickory to cheer us on.

**Friday, November 17th 1:45 - 4:00 P.M.** There will be a hike at a place TBD. Contact Sonya Reid at [syreid28@gmail.com](mailto:syreid28@gmail.com) for more information.

Plans are in the works for our Annual Holiday Party, so save the date of **Saturday, January 13, 2024!** Watch for details and sign-up coming soon!

### Other events in the works:

- Travelling Wine Tastings – we now have a contact for a van for these event. More info coming soon!
- Windy Wool Windings in Vale – On hold due to avian flu, Led by Evie,
- Escape Room - July or August, maybe Feb. or March. 3 rooms, 1 hour, no space there for gathering, meal before/after? offer different times?
- 3-day trip to Asheville



# November Birthdays

11.01 Sherri McGinnis  
11.03 Roberta Greene  
11.04 Richard Brands  
11.05 Bob Kidd  
11.05 Kathleen Whiddon  
11.05 Maggie Morris  
11.06 Christine Pfingst  
11.06 Susan Mata  
11.06 Quentin Sedney  
11.07 Pam Allison  
11.07 Linda Scott  
11.07 Pat Connor

11.08 Blake Bee Watts  
11.09 Scott Sweeney  
11.1 Linda Baker  
11.18 Louise Judd  
11.18 Kathy Eichelberger  
11.24 Susan Reese  
11.25 Carol Fisher  
11.25 Vince Tramazzo  
11.26 Sandi (Shear) Johnson  
11.27 Kathleen Rozea  
11.28 Rhonda Roederer



## Good to Know

Attorney General Josh Stein Alert: Attorney General Josh Stein Publishes Guide to Help Prevent Senior Scams If you are having trouble viewing this message or would like to share it on a social network, you can [view the message online](#).



Attorney General  
**Josh Stein**

## CONSUMER ALERT

### Attorney General Josh Stein Publishes Guide to Help Prevent Senior Scams

**Friday, October 13, 2023**

Attorney General Josh Stein today published a revised Senior Scam Guide, available [here](#). The guide provides a look at the common scams and tactics that scammers use to target vulnerable North Carolinians, particularly older people, and steal their money and personal information.

“Scammers rely on a tried-and-tested playbook to take advantage of hardworking North Carolinians,” said Attorney General Josh Stein. “I hope this senior scam guide will help North Carolina families understand the tactics that scammers often use and how to avoid them. It’s always easier to prevent a scam than it is to try to recover your money.”

If you think you may have been the victim of a scam or have been contacted by a scammer, report it to our office at 1-877-5-NO-SCAM or [file a complaint](#). The Department of Justice works to hold scammers accountable and, when possible, recover your money. In 2022, our office’s Consumer Protection Division recovered more than \$100,000 lost to elder fraud.

The North Carolina Attorney General’s Office provides presentations about scams and identity theft to groups of consumers across the state. To learn more or schedule a presentation, visit [www.ncdoj.gov/outreach](http://www.ncdoj.gov/outreach).

## Officers, Directors, Activity Chairs and Committees 2023 - 2024

| <b>Officers</b>           | <b>Position</b><br>as of July 1, 2023                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adra Kryszczuk            | President                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Debbie Hindman            | Vice President                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Sonya Reid                | Treasurer                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Sharon Snellings          | Secretary                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Cathi Montgomery          | Past President                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Directors</b>          | Nancy Geiger, Evie Gibson, Rob Herman, Kathy Rozea                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Activity</b>           | <b>Chair</b>                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Book Club                 | Laura Moran                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Bowling                   | Vince LeGrand                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Bridge                    | Gloria Berg                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Canasta and Games Daytime | Susan Reese                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Charity Coordinator       | Nancy Geiger                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Chatty Crafters           | Millie Kaufman                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Coffee & Conversation     | Sheri Binning                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Events Committee          | Evie Gibson & Amy Chizen (co-chairs), Kathy Eichelberger, Lynne Hill, Jon Kiser, Adra Kryszczuk, Cathi Montgomery, Karlene Patrick, Kathy Patrick, Patti Ramsey, Sonya Reid, Judy Ward, Cindy Zook |
| Items of Interest         | Bob Jones                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Hospitality               | Sharon Snellings                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Lunch/Dinner Out          | Denise Hogestyn                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Mahjongg                  | Elaine Knobloch                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Membership                | Debbie Hindman                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Members Helping Members   | Sandi Shear Johnson                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Newsletter Editor         | Sandi Shear Johnson                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Programs                  | Kathy Kuehn                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Publicity                 | ***** Position Available *****                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Rummikub and Games        | Debbie Hindman                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Samba Day                 | Shari Kidd                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Samba and Games Night     | Kathy Rozea                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Shooting                  | Vince LeGrand                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Sponsors                  | Kevin McCutcheon                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Team Cuisine              | Jon Kiser                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Webmaster Team            | Lisa Raggio (calendar), Adra Kryszczuk (members), Greg Gervasio (site advisor)                                                                                                                     |

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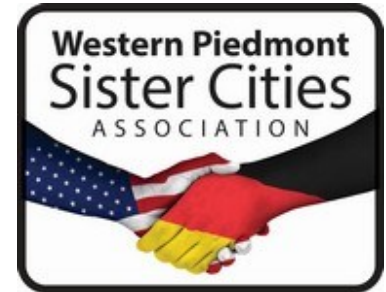
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# LET'S SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS!



sponsor: the Hickory Community Theatre @ HCT History | Hickory Theatre

The Hickory Community Theatre had its humble beginning in 1948 when the Hickory Recreation Department employed Kay Johnson to form a theatre group. Her first offering was a series of radio dramas aired on WIRC. In 1949, informal meetings, encouraged by the Kramer family, led to the formation of what was then known as The Hickory Little Theatre. The HLT first production was an evening of one-act plays, so successful that the company presented its first full-length production, *YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU* in October in the auditorium at City Hall. The building has been the home of HCT ever since. The Theatre grew in popularity and community support through the '50s and staged its first musical production, *THE BOYFRIEND*, in 1958 – the same year that Charles Jeffers started his life-long involvement with HCT. A new city hall was built in 1976 and HCT slowly moved into more of the old building. Renovations in 1984 led to the two performance spaces known to modern audiences, the extremely popular Firemen's Kitchen and the HCT Mainstage, which the City Council renamed The Charles E. Jeffers Theatre in 1988, when the city turned over the entire building to the use of the Theatre. Renovations continued in the 1990s that completed the exterior restoration of the building and renovations to the Charles E Jeffers Theatre.

Each year, HCT and its community of volunteers celebrate its yearlong season of productions, events, and activities with the Kay Awards ceremony. "The Kays" honor the volunteers who have labored and shared their talents to support the Theatre throughout the year. The awards, named in honor of Kay Johnson are hosted by the Guild at HCT. The Guild represents the highest level of volunteerism at HCT Guild members, in addition to their individual volunteer service, collectively complete projects to improve the appeal and function of the Theatre and conduct special fundraisers for purchase of needed equipment.

See more about our wonderful sponsor: the Hickory Community Theatre @ HCT History | Hickory Theatre

