

February 2024

Adra Kryszczuk, Editor



The Voice

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

newcomersofcv.org

Presidents Messages

This is my last message as President. Once again, I extend special thanks to the members of my Board; Debbie Hindman, Sharon Snellings, Sonya Reid, Nancy Geiger, Evie Gibson, Rob Herman and Kathy Rozea. Special thanks go to Sandi Johnson for serving as Newsletter Editor for my tenure. I am also grateful to all Club members for their support and encouragement.



I look forward to serving the board in an advisory capacity as past president. As usual, there are openings for more volunteers to run activities. Please look at the list in the newsletter to see if you can help somewhere

Adra

A hearty thanks to all who voted for me to be the next President of this wonderful organization. I look forward to working with the Board of Directors, which includes Paul Nielsen, Vice President, Sonya Reid, Treasurer, Sharon Snellings, Secretary, Adra Kryszczuk, Past President, and Directors Nancy Geiger, Roxanne Hibbs, Patti Ramsey and Michelle Tompkins. We've met a few times already and it looks like we are off to a great start. Please feel free to contact me, or any Board member, with questions, comments, or ideas, since that's why we're here!



As Adra mentioned, we do need some volunteers to step up into some empty slots. However, I would like to thank the folks that **have** filled some of our open positions: Marje Wells and Linda Zacharenko will handle the Charities, Michelle Tompkins will be lining up Programs for our General Meetings, Cindy Zook and Jon Kiser are taking over the Special Events Committee, and Jon Kiser is also handling club Publicity. Our most urgent need is for an editor for our monthly newsletter, *The Voice*. This is an essential part of our club communication, so give it some thought.

Again, thank you and I am looking forward to our next year!

Amy

Here's a quick look at the excitement of the Winter Party held on January 13th. It was a HUGE success! This year we gathered at Warehouse 18 in Hickory. We had a chilly evening, but DJ, ChuckyB, had us hopping on the dance floor and working up a sweat! The appetizers were passed and devoured, the meals were served, and the dancing commenced. It was fun meeting folks we hadn't known before. The planning committee, including Amy Chizen, Sonya Reid, Cindy Zook, Jon Kiser, Rob Herman and Evie Gibson, created a gorgeous setting! Here are a few photos from the evening.



Committee Chairs Needed

Newsletter Editor - Responsible for collecting and editing articles from the committee heads and officers each month and creating and publishing, via our email, The Voice. Here is your chance to provide your input for how the newsletter looks! It is currently done using MSWord software. **Without an editor, this may be the last issue of THE VOICE!**

Games Day - An opportunity to enjoy ANY game you choose other than Samba or Canasta. Responsible for setting the date, time and location (usually the airport). A kitty will be provided.

Daytime Canasta - Set up date, time and location (usually the airport) for members to assemble for lunch and hand and foot canasta. A kitty will be provided.

MahJongg - Organize games at least once monthly at locations as agreed by participants.

Dominoes and/or Rummikub - Set up date, time and location (usually the airport) for members to assemble to play games. A kitty will be provided.

These are all important jobs that your fellow members have been taking care of, sometimes for years. We thank all our previous Chairs and Coordinators for the great job they have done for us over the years! Think about our club without these peoples' help! We would not be as strong or active without them. Please consider stepping up and taking on a position to keep our club running smoothly.

***Please consider taking on one of these activities to keep the club operational.
Your help will benefit all members!***



Message from the Club Treasurer:

The time has come to renew your Newcomers of Catawba Valley membership dues for 2024-2025. Dues are \$20 per person. Payment can be either check or cash and you may pay at any General Meeting or mail your check to Newcomers of Catawba Valley, 2425 North Center Street, #169, Hickory, NC 28601.

Dues must be paid no later than March 31, 2024.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sonya Reid at ncvtreasurer@gmail.com.

General Meeting:

The next General Meeting is Wednesday, February 14 at 10:30 a.m. The guest speaker at this meeting is Carly Anne York, PhD., Associate Professor of Biology at Lenoir-Rhyne University and her topic is The Sensory World of Aquatic Critters. Carly Anne has a unique approach to her science. I think we're in for a real treat! Don't forget . . . the General Meeting is a wonderful opportunity to introduce your friends to Newcomers!

Special Events Committee News: Amy Chizen chizenamy@gmail.com

Since I have been elected President of our club, I am relinquishing the Chair position of this committee. But do not fret! Two fine and energetic individuals have stepped up to take on this role: Cindy Zook and Jon Kiser. Plans are already in the works for the annual activities events, and I'm sure a few new ideas will surface in the months ahead.

February brings a new fun evening out! **Friday Friendly Feud** will be held on Friday, February 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at the Hickory Airport. We are starting the evening with a Potluck dinner. We ask that you bring a main or side dish of your choosing to pass. The Committee will provide desserts. After dinner we'll form random teams, and the battles will begin! We have the questions and answers, we have the buzzers, all we need is **you**! Hope to see you there! Please R.S.V.P. to Cindy Zook at cindyzook@horizontech.com.

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

We're going to add movies to our Book Club Group activity. Our first movie meeting will be on February 28th from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. at the home of Amy Chizen. We'll see "**On the Basis of Sex**," about Ruth Bader Ginsberg. Sign up with Amy, chizenamy@gmail.com.

The next meeting of the Book Club will be **Wednesday, March 27th** at 1:30 p.m. The book for discussion is **Moonglow** by Michael Chabon

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

- Winner of the Sophie Brody Medal
- An NBCC Finalist for 2016 Award for Fiction
- ALA Carnegie Medal Finalist for Excellence in Fiction
- Wall Street Journal's Best Novel of the Year
- A New York Times Notable Book of the Year
- A Washington Post Best Book of the Year
- An NPR Best Book of the Year
- A Slate Best Book of the Year
- A Christian Science Monitor Top 15 Fiction Book of the Year
- A New York Magazine Best Book of the Year
- A San Francisco Chronicle Book of the Year
- A BuzzFeed Best Book of the Year
- A New York Post Best Book of the Year
- iBooks Novel of the Year
- 2016 National Book Critics Circle Award Finalist for Fiction
- An Amazon Editors' Top 20 Book of the Year
- #1 Indie Next Pick • #1 Amazon Spotlight Pick
- A *New York Times* Book Review Editors' Choice
- A *BookPage* Top Fiction Pick of the Month
- An Indie Next Bestseller

"This book is beautiful." - A.O. Scott, *New York Times Book Review*, cover review

Following on the heels of his *New York Times* bestselling novel *Telegraph Avenue*, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Michael Chabon delivers another literary masterpiece: a novel of truth and lies, family legends, and existential adventure—and the forces that work to destroy us.

In 1989, fresh from the publication of his first novel, *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh*, Michael Chabon traveled to his mother's home in Oakland, California, to visit his terminally ill grandfather. Tongue loosened by powerful painkillers, memory stirred by the imminence of death, Chabon's grandfather shared recollections and told stories the younger man had never heard before, uncovering bits and pieces of a history long buried and forgotten. That dreamlike week of revelations forms the basis for the novel *Moonglow*, the latest feat of legerdemain from Pulitzer Prize-winning author Michael Chabon. *Moonglow* unfolds as the deathbed confession of a man the narrator refers to only as "my grandfather." It is a tale of madness, of war and adventure, of sex and marriage and desire, of existential doubt and model rocketry, of the shining aspirations and demonic underpinnings of American technological accomplishment at midcentury, and, above all, of the destructive impact—and the creative power—of keeping secrets and telling lies. It is a portrait of the difficult but passionate love between the narrator's grandfather and his grandmother, an enigmatic woman broken by her experience growing up in war-torn France. It is also a tour de force of speculative autobiography in which Chabon devises and reveals a secret history of his own imagination.

From the Jewish slums of prewar South Philadelphia to the invasion of Germany, from a Florida retirement village to the penal utopia of New York's Wallkill prison, from the heyday of the space program to the twilight of the "American Century," the novel revisits an entire era through a single life and collapses a lifetime into a single week. A lie that tells the truth, a work of fictional nonfiction, an autobiography wrapped in a novel disguised as a memoir, *Moonglow* is Chabon at his most moving and inventive.

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

Pin Station in Newton is where we bowl every Wednesday (except around holidays) with the season concluding on March 27th, 2024. Bowlers of all abilities are welcome. 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. Come on out on a Wednesday evening for some bowling.

Bridge Chair: Pett Brands pettway163@gmail.com

February Hosts

1st Monday	February 5	Peg Baldwin
1st Wednesday	February 7	Kathy Durand
2nd Monday	February 12	Laurie Johnsen
3rd Monday	February 19	Betty Stone
3rd Wednesday	February 21	Kathy Durand



Please remember to let me know of any schedule changes!

Chatty Crafters Chair: Millie Kaufman mkauf188@bellsouth.net

February 2nd and 16th from 10 a.m. to 12 noon

It's a new year and it's winter. This is a great time to work on your UFOs (UnFinished Objects) that are stuffed away in a closet. We crafters have no shame; we share our progress with each other. Crafters have worked on diamond painting art, quilting, knitting, crochet, paper art, weaving, cross stitch, needle point, and latch hook. This is a drop-in group, open to all. The hostess provides, coffee, tea, and water. We just ask that you let the hostess know you can attend so the proper number of chairs can be set up.

Our hostess for February is Linda DeGraw at 277 Gentle and Smith Road, Taylorsville. R.S.V.P. to Linda at teach1999@gmail.com. Thoughts or questions contact Millie Kaufman.

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

This month we're heading back to the Hickory Bread Café, 1756 Catawba Valley Blvd SE. This is a locally owned establishment. We'll meet at 2 p.m. on the last Friday, February 23rd. They have a great selection of foods as well as coffees and teas and pastries. Check out their menu at <https://hickorybreakfastrestaurant.com/>. Sign up with Sheri or just show up! The more, the merrier.

Lunch Out Chair: Loretta Wells lorettamw@gmail.com

Lunch Out will be held on February 8th at 11:30 a.m. at the Olde Hickory Station, 232 Government Avenue, Hickory. Loretta Wells will take reservations at lorettamw@gmail.com as Denise is out of town. Here's a link to the lunch menu on their website: <https://www.oldehickorystation.com/menus/main-menu/> Please R.S.V.P. by Monday, February 5th so Loretta can let the Station know how many will attend.

Shooting Chair: Vince LeGrand legravin@gmail.com

Newcomers Shooting has returned! There are two (2) shooting sessions per month. On the second Tuesday of each month there will be an evening shooting session at 6:30 p.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. Shooters of all abilities are welcome. Please contact Vince LeGrand (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.

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



**Cut and Grow:
Propagation Techniques and Interactive
Demonstration.**

February 13, 2024, from 10-11:30 a.m.
Bethlehem Greenhouse & Nursery
21 Lakeside Loop, Hickory



Join us for a hands-on experience in the art of plant propagation

What to Expect:

- **Interactive Workstations:** Learn various propagation techniques including cuttings, layering, and division. You'll take your own cutting to begin the process of growing roots.
- **Expert Guidance:** Experienced horticulturist, Bruce Huffman, from the Bethlehem Greenhouse will give us a tour of their current propagation operation and guide us to do it ourselves.
- **Take Home Your Own Plant:** Propagate a provided plant during the demo and take it home with you! Dirt, plant, and planter are all provided at no charge.
- **Q&A Session:** Get all your propagation-related questions answered.

Registration Details:

- **Deadline: Saturday February 10th.** Limited spots available due to worktable space!
- **Registration fee: FREE**

What to Bring:

- Your enthusiasm for plants!
- Comfortable clothing (greenhouse is warm inside) and gloves if you don't like dirty hands. You will be digging in the dirt!

How to Register: email Cindy Zook at cindyzook@horizontech.com or 336-592-0222.

Don't miss this opportunity! Bring a friend and let's grow together!

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



The focus of this support group is to coordinate assistance for Newcomer 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.

This is a serious request for those who can and will help others. Can you drive someone to the doctor? Can you walk someone's pet? Could you pick up some groceries for someone? Are you good with a computer? Would you be able to help someone on the phone with a computer issue? Could you type up a letter for someone? Would you be willing to be part of a phone tree to locate help for someone? Your help is greatly appreciated.

Charity Chair: Nancy Geiger ng0425@gmail.com



Our first quarter charity is Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry (CCM). They've recently restructured their focus and way of doing things, so Executive Director, Molly Sain, spoke at our January 10th General Meeting and brought us up to date on the changes. She also let us know where help was needed. We sent Molly back to GHCCM with items from the list below and will do another drive at 10:30 a.m. at our February 14th General Meeting.

If you would like to contribute, please bring items to any General Meeting or get them to any board member.

Wish List:

Personal Hygiene ITEMS FOR THE HOMELESS SHOWER MINISTRY

Sample size:

- Men and Women Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Razor
- Shaving Cream
- Soap / Body Wash
- Deodorant
- Wash Cloth / Towels
- Comb / Brush

HEALTHY FOODS FOR A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE

- Canned meats, salmon and tuna packed in water (not oil)
- Canned vegetables and soups with low/no sodium, no salt added
- Canned fruits with low or no sugar added
- Low or no carbohydrate food items (i.e. brown rice, quinoa in small packages, precooked)
- Low or no sugar packaged foods/snacks (i.e. sugar free cookies, no sugar jello/pudding)
- Almond flour, Monk Fruit in the raw (sugar alternative), sugar free cake mixes
- Healthy condiments (i.e. no sugar ketchup, salt free seasonings)

PHARMACY NEEDS

- Collect medication bottles with safety caps (labels removed)

HOMELESS LAUNDRY MINISTRY NEEDS

- Low suds detergent (High Efficiency preferred)
- Spot/soil remover spray
- Dryer sheets

CLEANING SUPPLIES

- Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Disinfectant cleaner
- Window cleaner
- Vinegar
- Clorox/Clorox for colors

CRISIS CLOSET NEEDS FOR MEN AND WOMEN

- Rain Gear & Waterproof Items
- Sturdy/large Backpacks & Blankets
- Socks, Bras & Underwears (new)
- T-shirts (long and short sleeves)
- Shirts
- Shorts for Men and Women
- Shoes (wearable condition)
- PLEASE REMEMBER:
- No damaged clothing or clothing with strong odors.
- Practical clothes needed, no party attire.

Also, if you would like a tour of GHCCM I've set up February 13th at 10 a.m. for Molly to take us around. Please let me know if you'd like to join the group (ng0425@gmail.com). And, if you would like to talk to Molly about volunteering there you can email her at mtsain@ccmhickory.org or by calling their main number - 828-327-0979.

Samba Day Chair: Shari Kidd kidd915sl@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE THE LOCATION CHANGE!



Samba Day is February 13th. Lunch at 11 a.m. and Samba begins at noon. Samba is the only game played and there **will not** be a learning table. We will continue meeting at Bob Evans with one change, everyone playing will contribute \$1.00 to be used as a tip for the wait staff. This is separate from your tip for any food/drink you buy. Also, the Kitty will be \$2.00 for anyone who wants to chip in for prizes. As always, the kitty is optional.

PLEASE R.S.V.P. to me at kidd915sl@gmail.com no later Sunday, February 11 at 6:00 p.m. so that I can make the reservations for the room. *Because they are allowing us to play for free, everyone should buy at least a drink or dessert from the restaurant.*

Samba Night Chair: Kathy Rozea krr510@yahoo.com

Samba is played at the Hickory Regional Airport on the 4th Thursday Evening each month. Our next Evening Samba is **Thursday, February 22nd**. Please arrive about 5:15 p.m. for registration. Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. and SAMBA starts promptly at 6:00 p.m. The menu will be posted. We offer cards and dinner for \$12 per person or cards only (no dinner) for \$5 per person. Coffee, tea and water is provided to all players. There is a **learning table** for members who would like to learn how to play or to brush up on their skills. All Newcomers are welcome. Please R.S.V.P. to Kathy Rozea at krr510@yahoo.com, no later than Tuesday, February 20th to play or if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Fifth Friday Crafts!

There are four fifth Fridays in the year, and we plan to get together and learn a quick craft at each. These crafts can be accomplished in a couple hours, are low cost, and yet another opportunity to be with friends! Fifth Fridays will fall on March 29th, May 31st, August 30th, and November 29th with a different craft at each.

On March 29th Kathy Durand will teach us how to make small gift boxes from colorful calendar pages, wallpaper samples and other firm stock. We'll be meeting in the "Baggage Room" at the Airport. So, if you haven't thrown out your old calendars, hang on to them! We'd appreciate any from anyone, even if you aren't interested in doing the craft! Please bring any to the February or March General Meetings.

Future crafts are still being worked out, so mark the dates and watch for more information.

February Birthdays

Date	Name	Date	Name
2.01	Jon Dingle	2.17	Renee Barnette
2.01	Cynthia Beeksma	2.18	Bill Lane
2.03	Mayur Patel	2.19	Peg Baldwin
2.03	Marcy Hill	2.19	Brian Broussard
2.03	Mary Beth Young	2.20	Steven Berg
2.05	Valerie Carpenter	2.21	Joyce Walker
2.06	Mike Rozea	2.21	Sheila Cooke
2.06	Vicki Mullins	2.22	Jeffrey Berg
2.08	Susan Fontyn	2.24	Cathie Lane
2.08	Gene Rozea	2.26	Iris Sechriest
2.09	Marje Wells	2.28	Beth Keane
2.09	Phyllis Polo	2.28	Heather Brooke
2.16	Ron Kapnick		



Welcome to our newest members!

Amy & Robert Mallett from FL
Ruth Siskind from NY
Mark Becker from WA
Suzy Caldwell from IL

Officers, Directors, Activity Chairs and Committees 2024 - 2025

Officers	
President	Amy Chizen
Vice President	Paul Nielsen
Treasurer	Sonya Reid
Secretary	Sharon Snellings
Past President	Adra Kryszczuk
Directors	Nancy Geiger, Roxanne Hibbs, Patti Ramsey, Michelle Tompkins
Activity	Chair
Book Club	Laura Moran
Bowling	Vince LeGrand
Bridge	Pett Brands
Canasta & Games Day	* * * * *Position Available* * * * *
Canasta & Games Night	* * * * *Position Available* * * * *
Charity Coordinators	Nancy Geiger
Chatty Crafters	Millie Kaufman
Coffee & Conversation	Sheri Binning
Dominoes	* * * * *Position Available* * * * *
Events Committee	Cindy Zook & Jon Kiser (co-chairs), Amy Chizen, Kathy Eichelberger, Lynne Hill, Adra Kryszczuk, Karlene Patrick, Kathy Patrick, Patti Ramsey, Sonya Reid, Judy Ward
Hiking	Sonya & David Reid
Hospitality	Linda DeGraw (mornings), Susan Dingle (evenings)
Items of Interest	Bob Jones
Lunch/Dinner Out	Denise Hogestyn
Mahjongg	* * * * *Position Available* * * * *
Membership	Paul Nielsen
Members Helping Members	Sandi Shear Johnson
Newsletter Editor	* * * * *Position Available* * * * *
Programs	Michelle Tompkins
Publicity	Jon Kiser
Rummikub	* * * * *Position Available* * * * *
Samba Day	Shari Kidd
Samba Night	Kathy Rozea
Shooting	Vince LeGrand
Sponsors	Kevin McCutcheon
Team Cuisine	Jon Kiser
Webmaster Team	Adra Kryszczuk (members & calendar), Greg Gervasio (site advisor)

Newcomers of Catawba Valley Sponsors

 <p>Mia Yang 864-641-5407 cell mia.asignco@gmail.com</p> <p>1320 Fairgrove Church Rd Conover NC 28613 828-466-1044 office assigncohickory.com</p>	 <p>MIKE KELLY REALTOR® Broker Owner, CLMS, CRS, Green, GRI</p> <p>Direct: 828-234-0479 Office: 828-328-9540 Email: Mike.Kelly@BetterFoothills.com</p> <p>813 Main Avenue SW Hickory, NC 28602</p> <p>MikeKellyJr.com</p> <p><small>As Independently Owned and Operated Franchise</small></p> <p>Better Homes FOOTHILLS</p>	 <p>CATAWBA VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE</p>
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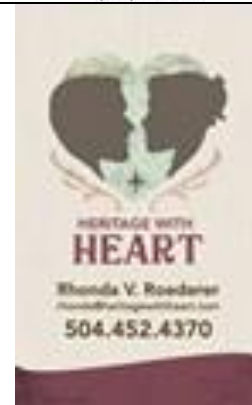


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The UPS Store



Sponsor Spotlight

When you need professional-grade signs for your business, turn to ASignco for quality and classic signs that will help promote your business and engage the public. Trust us for quick and personalized services that will exceed your expectations! Donna and Rudy Wright began this business in 1995 as a franchisee of American Sign Shops. In 2004, they became a family-owned business, which is completely independent. Mia Yang has been the new owner of ASignco for 3-years now and has already made a tremendous impact by supporting several charity activities in our community. Thank you, Mia!

Mia grew up in Spartanburg SC and graduated from University South Carolina with a Bachelors in Accounting & Finance. She worked as an Accounting Manager for over 15 years, but her desire was to own her own business one day. She is committed to continuing the legacy of the



Wright's. As her website (www.asigncohickory.com) denotes, ASignco will create, install, repair, and service any sign that you need or have. "We are committed to helping our community, the betterment of the sign industry, and delivering top-quality customer service. Our team will ensure that your sign meets or exceeds your expectations." Contact us today to discuss your options! Check out ASignco and congratulate Mia Yang for her continued investment in our community and thank her for her sponsorship. mia.asignco@gmail.com

PLEASE, support our sponsors! Thank them and mention Newcomers if you do.

Do you have a business that you regularly support - doctor, auto repair, restaurant - that you think would like to serve as a sponsor of Newcomers of Catawba Valley? Please share your request with Kevin McCutcheon at kevinmccutcheon76@gmail.com.