

# Greater Lexington Newcomers

Meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 10:00 to 11:30 AM Each Month Except August & December

**EDITOR:** Deb Bodner – [teaguerun1928@yahoo.com](mailto:teaguerun1928@yahoo.com)

**WEB SITE:** John Ekin - [www.lexvanewcomers.org](http://www.lexvanewcomers.org)

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## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear Newcomers,

Spring has sprung—and I hope we don't jump into summer too soon. We had a nice turnout of 35 members on Wednesday and five guests, several of whom signed up to join us on the spot! Welcome to Sue, Pat, Carrie and Andy, and Stephanie. We hope you enjoyed the fellowship and meeting.

We had a terrific presentation this month from Maureen Becker of the Rockbridge Area Master Gardener Association (RAMGA—the acronym to use when googling them). She helped us understand who Master Gardeners are, what they do for the community, and how to become one. If I wasn't already a trainee myself this year, I might be tempted!

We then proceeded to club business, bringing up the motion to change the language of the bylaws as we detailed in last month's newsletter. The motion carried for both tweaks. We also presented the slate of candidates for Vice President and Treasurer for next year: Suzanne Williams for VP, and Julie Eckles for Treasurer. And here's where I need to confess to you all, that I got a little over-excited and put our slate of candidates up for a club vote. The bylaws actually say the slate is presented in May then voted on in June. My bad! To accommodate this error on my part, I encourage anyone who would like to volunteer for either of these positions to reach out to me and we can hold a re-vote, if necessary, in June. Again, I apologize for my mistake here, and don't want to disadvantage anyone. If we don't hear from anyone, then Suzanne and Julie will be the new members in our leadership team. They will join Bill Stone who will fleet up as President, and Linda McCumber, who has graciously agreed to stay another year. I am fully confident that this new team will be excellent for our club.

We are looking for someone to step up to be the coordinator for the annual picnic in July. Jane Stange has faithfully pulled this together for many years, and is looking to hand it on—although she will help with it this year to smooth the transition. Please let her know if you can either help (she assures us that many people do, so coordinating is not really a chore!) or if you want to take this on. Thanks.

Lauralee Hart, our Activities Chairman, was off on exciting travels on Wednesday, but encouraged everyone to review the newsletter for fun and interesting things to do. Diana Hopkins talked with us about the Heifetz music program this summer at Mary Baldwin University in Staunton. Sounds like a great opportunity to hear some wonderful music and support an excellent program. Contact her if your interest is piqued.

Finally, I am sorry to pass on the sad information that Beth Ekdahl died this week. I appreciated all the work she did for the club's holiday party, but more than that, I will miss her spunk, her warm and big smile. My heartfelt sympathies to her family and friends.

Look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> of June.

Regards, Carol Humphries

### **CLUB OFFICERS**

#### **President**

Carol Humphries

#### **Vice President**

Bill Stone

#### **Treasurer**

Aileen Spurgeon

#### **Corresponding Secretary**

Linda McCumber

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

#### **Activities**

Lauralee Hart

#### **Hospitality**

Linda Andrew

#### **Membership**

Marilou Schindler

#### **Name Tags**

Marilou Schindler

#### **Publicity**

Steve Patterson

#### **Welcome**

Pat Anthony

#### **Historian**

Gary Sullivan

**TREASURERS REPORT**  
**May 1, 2019**  
**Submitted by Aileen Spurgeon**

<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	<b>\$2034.35</b>
<b>Income:</b>	
	\$ 0
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Rent	\$ 60.00
Gift Certificates	75.00
Website anti-spam:	57.68
Secretary supplies	4.21
Tea and Coffee	12.75
Chamber of Commerce	<u>100.00</u>
Total:	\$ 309.64
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$1724.71</b>



**MEMBERSHIP**

Our club increased its membership by 2 recently. We welcome the following Newcomers:

Jeff and Marianne Salb  
 59 Blue Grass Trail  
 Lexington VA 24450  
 tjsalb@protonmail.com  
 masalb@verizon.net

This brings our 2018-2019 membership to 205 paid members.

**FOR THE HISTORIAN**

Don't forget to send your activity photos to Gary Sullivan for the on-line photo album. [garysullivan@rockbridge.net](mailto:garysullivan@rockbridge.net)



**THINKING OF YOU**

Please remember even if we are on vacation, I will have cards with me. Just let me know when there is a need and I will respond.

Get Well to Cynthia Tucker for shingles diagnosis  
 Thinking of You to Carolyn and John Rapoza...both recovering from pneumonia  
 Thinking of You to Tom Cheers who fell and broke his hip  
 Sympathy to the family of John Rapoza  
 Sympathy to Becky Thompson at the passing of her brother  
 Sympathy card to the family of Beth Ekdahl

Hopefully, with spring and warmer weather, all will experience better health.

Linda McCumber, Corresponding Secretary  
[LDMCRETIRED@YAHOO.COM](mailto:LDMCRETIRED@YAHOO.COM)  
 1-804-839-4671

**HOSPITALITY**

Just a reminder that our Newcomers tea for our newest members will be held on May 5, from 3-5 pm. Diana and Dave Hopkins have offered their home for this event, **3795 Maury River Road, Rockbridge Baths, Va .**

## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

**Crozet Spring Arts & Crafts Festival**, Crozet, VA, Saturday, May 11, 2019, 10am to 5:30pm. Tickets will be purchased at the gate. Adults \$7.00 Seniors \$6.00. This is a juried arts and crafts festival. Unique and talented vendors, free music and numerous food vendors. The address is 1075 Claudius Crozet Park, Crozet, Va. If you wish to carpool, please email Lauralee Hart at [lauraleesorensen@yahoo.com](mailto:lauraleesorensen@yahoo.com) For a list of vendors, please check the Festival webpage at [www.crozetfestival.com](http://www.crozetfestival.com)

**The Final Salute: D-Day plus 75 Years, Thursday, June 6, 2019** at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA. This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day. The National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA is having 5 days of remembrances and activities to commemorate the day. On June 6, 1944, Bedford, Virginia lost 20 of the 32 sons it sent to the invasion of Normandy, a devastating blow to the tiny community of just over 3,200. There will be no admission charge on this date. We are fortunate to live so close to this Memorial and participate in the anniversary.

The schedule for the day:

10:00 am – Aerial Tribute to WWII Veterans

11:00 am - “The Final Salute” Commemorative Observance

6:30 am – 9:00 pm – Commemoration Activities, including WWII reenactments, “Profiles in Honor” mobile museum, Enduring Freedom Band and a USO Show. There will also be food trucks so people may purchase breakfast and lunch.

Carpooling is strongly encouraged. Carpools will meet at 7:30 am in the Food Lion Parking Lot in Lexington. Please email Lauralee Hart, [lauraleesorensen@yahoo.com](mailto:lauraleesorensen@yahoo.com) to sign up. Each

carpool group will decide how long they wish to stay at the events.

**Battlefield Tours Survey:** Dick and George are planning a one night stay for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battles of Bull Run (Manassas), mid-to-late September 2019 (probably week days, not weekend). Registration begins now and lasts until the end of June. They will give a pre-trip talk on the battles following the September Newcomers meeting on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Suggested Activity:** The Heifetz Institute Summer Program at Mary Baldwin University in Staunton runs from June 29– August 9. A free Showcase concert on July 12th at noon in the Mary Baldwin Francis Auditorium is scheduled. If you are interested in attending and having a lunch in Staunton following the concert, please contact Diana & David Hopkins at [vatxrok@me.com](mailto:vatxrok@me.com), or 540 348 6946.

Founded in 1996, the Staunton, VA-based Heifetz International Music Institute is dedicated to the artistic growth and career development of talented and promising young musicians from around the world. Their mission is to develop the expressive potential of every performer, through innovative and cross-disciplinary training. The Institute’s teaching philosophy is that artists express their individuality not only through technically and intellectually robust music making, but also through emotional and even physical engagement with the music they play.

This internationally known program this year includes 78 young musicians in their regular program. Eleven students are enrolled in the [Chamber Music Seminar](#), and another 11 in the inaugural [Heifetz Baroque Vocal Workshop](#) to form the largest Heifetz community ever, hailing from 23 states and 10 countries. Concerts are offered throughout the summer. To learn more about the Institute visit their website at [www.heifetzinstitute.org](http://www.heifetzinstitute.org).



## Annual Summer Picnic 2019

We are in the planning stages of getting the summer picnic together. I would like to hand this off after this year, so I need someone or a couple of people to come forward and continue this fun and easy event. You will have lots of helpers so it is not a big production at all.

We don't have the date set in stone but it will be July 14 or 24. Look for next month's Newsletter for all of the details. Thanks to all of you who signed up at the meeting, to help on the day of the picnic. Please contact me if you are willing to help organize or help on that day. Jane Stange, [pstange@embarqmail.com](mailto:pstange@embarqmail.com), cell 703-969-4023

Thanks and looking forward to a great picnic.

## INTEREST GROUPS

*Interest group participants must be members of Newcomers. To join an interest group, call or email the contact person.*



### Dining Out

Each quarter volunteers make a reservation for a group of 8 at a restaurant of their choice (usually within an hour of Lexington). Group members then sign up to join their hosts at a meal out!

Please contact Deb Gordon at 610-357-9532 or [debglnco@gmail.com](mailto:debglnco@gmail.com) if you would like more information. We are open to new members!

## Dining In/Fine Dining Group

Spring is our last set of dinners. All the hosts should have contacted their guests. Every dinner is always something to look forward to and know that you will have a meal you won't usually get in Lexington. Our hosts go above and beyond in coming up with the menus and creating a welcoming atmosphere. It is always a true "Fine Dining" experience with lots of conversation and fun.

We will be starting our new year of dinners in the Fall. It is a great way to get to know members in a small group setting. Please contact me Jane Stange, if you are interested in joining. [pstange@embarqmail.com](mailto:pstange@embarqmail.com), 540-463-2964, or cell 703-969-4023.



Cal & Jan Hale, Diana & David Hopkins, Joe Little, Glenn & Janet Gibson, Sue Whitsitt & Fred Massey at a recent Wine Tasting.

### Wine Tasting Group

The Wine Tasting Group holds tastings three times a year (March-April, June-July, and October-November).

The group's chair selects the type of wine to be tasted and a local merchant selects six wines for the blind tastings. Each tasting is hosted by a member in their home with six to eight tasters at each location. Ratings from each hosting are shared with the leader, who compiles the scores and distributes results to members via email.

Hosts select a theme to coincide with the type of wine and request hors d'oeuvres for guests to bring. The cost of the wine is split among guests. Anyone interested in joining may contact Barb Tyner at [rbytyner@gmail.com](mailto:rbytyner@gmail.com)



### **Mystery Dinner**

Memo from Chief Inspector George Grasse: Is it hedge-fund embezzlement or stock fraud? Two parties are scheduled: Grasse June 15<sup>th</sup> and Grinder June 27<sup>th</sup>. Two more parties are filled but dates are pending.

For information about the mystery dinners, contact: George Grasse, [gandg@histomin.com](mailto:gandg@histomin.com).



### **Page Turners**

We are a diverse group of open-minded thinkers/readers. Our purpose is to read and enjoy literature! Generally, we keep on topic but also feel free to introduce relevant (or not so) to the discussion such as historical facts, bio details, book background, related authors or topics, and personal connections. Being able to disagree with something another member has stated is an important constant in our discussions. At times we may get off track but we always respect the authority of the moderator. We usually meet at each other's homes (host) with a moderator, the individual who chose the book, leading the discussion.

Contact Mike Quarles [quarlestwo@earthlink.net](mailto:quarlestwo@earthlink.net)



### **BUNCO!**

The Fourth Thursday morning Bunco group is looking for several "regular" or "substitute" players who are interested in an easy dice game of chance, as well as having an opportunity to spend the morning with friends. After a light breakfast is served by the hostess, the group plays from 9:30 to 10:45-11:00. Please call or email Diana Hopkins if you are interested, 348-6946 or [vatxrok@me.com](mailto:vatxrok@me.com).

### **BUNKO**

Come roll with the Bunko ladies! We meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm. If you are interested in learning to play, we would love to teach you. Currently we are adding to our sub list. For more information, please contact Aileen Spurgeon at [spurgchick@gmail.com](mailto:spurgchick@gmail.com) or 540-460-1654.



### **Pinochle Club**

The pinochle group meets normally on the second Wednesday of each month from 2-4:30, with a different host who provides a dessert about halfway through our play of two games. The next Pinochle date is May 15 at the home of Bill Stone and Joe Little. We welcome new players, and substitutes who would like to learn how to play this easy-to-learn non-serious game. Call Marilou Schindler 291-2992 for more information or [marilous@aol.com](mailto:marilous@aol.com)

## Canasta Group

There are two canasta groups. One group of eight, "The Black 3's" plays on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm and the other group of eight, "The Red 3's", plays on the fourth Tuesday of in April and May; **beginning in June, "The Red 3's" will meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 12:45pm.** Each group meets in the home of a member of that group for a fun afternoon of cards, snacks and dessert.

If you would like to become a sub for one or both groups, please contact Cynthia Tucker, 463-3344, [cmtucker@comcast.net](mailto:cmtucker@comcast.net).



Left to right they are Andie Pollock, Aline McKenna, Teri Brasz, Jane Stange, Suzanne King, Aileen Spurgeon,

Terry Fridley, Karen Jackson, Anita Ramp, Gloria Gorlin, and Cynthia Tucker.



## Poker

The Poker players gather the 2nd Monday of the month. We each bring something to share and we BYOB. The chips get passed out and we have a great time. If interested please contact Bill Stone at [kingsway807@yahoo.com](mailto:kingsway807@yahoo.com)



Tom Thompson, Carl Williams, Joe Little and Larry Spurgeon Missing Clyde Hart and Bill Stone



## Yoga Group

The Newcomers' Yoga group meets weekly on Tuesday mornings at 8:30 in the Fitness Center at Kendal. The Center is down the hill and behind the main building, but it has been requested that we park our cars in the guest parking lot, anywhere on the circle.

Our class is appropriate to all levels, and individual needs are addressed with modifications. Bring your mat, wear some comfy clothes, and join us for an hour of gentle stretching, conditioning and strengthening in a union of mind, body and spirit. Please call Helen Moore at 850-240-5619 if you have any questions.



## Hiking Group

The Newcomers Hiking Group hikes every Friday weather permitting. If you would like to be on the email list, email Don Brooke, [donbrooke@gmail.com](mailto:donbrooke@gmail.com), or Debbie Maurer, [mountaintoppers@exede.net](mailto:mountaintoppers@exede.net)

## Prospective Group: Euchre

We are exploring the possibility of a Euchre group. Anyone interested in learning how to play or already knows how to play Euchre, or if you just more information, please contact Linda Andrew [wayward45lja@gmail.com](mailto:wayward45lja@gmail.com) or call 540-280-2533.

## CALENDAR

### May

- 1 **Club Meeting**
- 3 Hiking
- 7 Yoga
- 7 Canasta - Black 3's
- 8 Pinochle
- 10 Hiking
- 11 *Crozet Arts & Craft Festival*
- 14 Yoga
- 15 Bunko
- 17 Hiking
- 21 Yoga
- 23 Bunco
- 23 Page Turners
- 24 Hiking
- 28 Yoga
- 28 Canasta – Red 3's
- 31 Hiking

### June

- 4 Yoga
- 4 Canasta – Black 3's
- 5 **Club Meeting**
- 6 *Final Salute: D-Day plus 75*
- 7 Hiking
- 10 Poker
- 11 Yoga
- 12 Pinochle
- 14 Hiking
- 18 Yoga
- 18 Canasta – Red 3's
- 19 Bunko
- 21 Hiking
- 25 Yoga
- 27 Bunco
- 27 Page Turners
- 28 Hiking