

Greater Lexington Newcomers

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

EDITOR: Deb Bodner – teaguerun1928@yahoo.com

WEB SITE: John Ekin - www.lexvanewcomers.org

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Newcomers,

Here are my random thoughts for this month:

1. Changes to our bylaws – There was little discussion at the October meeting regarding adding the “not-for-profit” language and we’ve added the hyphens as recommended. We vote on the change next month.

Original language: “The purpose of the Greater Lexington Newcomers Club is to bring together persons new to the Lexington & Rockbridge County area in an inclusive social setting.

Proposed: “The **Greater Lexington Newcomers Club is a not-for-profit social club whose purpose** is to bring together persons new to the Lexington & Rockbridge County area in an inclusive social setting.”

Making it clear we are a not-for-profit group allow us a large discount in securing space for our holiday party on Thursday, Dec. 12th, 4-7pm, Moody Hall, VMI campus.

2. Ask not what we can do for you, but what you can do for us! (you know what I mean).... We need help in the following areas:

Welcome/Hospitality committee – Arranges and coordinates 2 social events a year. Thanks to Linda Andrews for doing this for the past several years.

Events Co-chair – We need this filled NOW. After listening to what the Visitors Center offers, a large part of the position might be directing people to what they have listed on their calendars for the Rockbridge area. Lauralee is stepping down (thank you for doing this for the past few years). Barbara Ekin is going to continue working with this but we are seeking a co-chair for this group.

Fine Dining Chairperson – Someone who has participated in this group needs to step up and manage this function. Jane Stange has done a fantastic job with this but she wants to step down after many years.

WE HAVE GREAT PROGRAMS BUT THEY CAN’T HAPPEN WITHOUT HELPERS. Please send me a note letting me know which area you would like to manage.

3. There are still a few openings for November’s Dining Out which will be on Nov. 8 at Café

CLUB OFFICERS

President

Bill Stone

Vice President

Suzanne Williams

Treasurer

Julie Eckles

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

Michel in Clifton Forge at 5:30. Please let Sharon Littlepage know if you would like to attend.

4. Dues are DUE! \$20 for the year – please see Marilou Schindler’s note in this newsletter.

5. Great info from the Visitors Center. Check out their website: LexingtonVirginia.com/events. Thanks to Marie Plank for sharing information on Lexington, Buena Vista, and Natural Bridge.

6. Next month please bring a non-perishable item for the food pantry. Our guest speaker is coming from Rockbridge Area Relief Association (RARA). We all have so much to be thankful for and with the holidays fast approaching, it would be nice if we could bring items to help stock the pantry.

7. Bingo Bango Bingo! – another \$45.00 was added to the treasury and a delighted member went home from the meeting \$45.00 richer. Congratulations to Pat Thompson.

We had 38 members and 4 guests along with 2 new members this month. Looking forward to seeing you all next month.

Bill

TREASURERS REPORT

June 5, 2019

Submitted by Aileen Spurgeon

MEMBERSHIP

Two new members joined the Newcomers Club this week. This brings our membership to 52 paid members for the current year

Chip and Ramona Bouzard
1695 Fredericksburg Rd
Rockbridge Baths, VA 24473
ramona.bouzard@wartburg.edu
chip.bouzard@wartburg.edu

Please remember to send your dues of \$20 per person to Marilou Schindler, 160 Pear Blossom Lane, Natural Bridge, VA 24578. Dues are payable now and will allow you to keep receiving the newsletter and notices of club events. Checks should be made out to: Greater Lexington Newcomers Club.

For information about membership, contact Marilou Schindler, marilous@aol.com or 540-291-2992

Beginning Balance:	\$1460.52
Income:	
<i>Dues</i>	\$ 570.00
<i>Bingo</i>	45.00
Total:	\$ 615.00
Expenses:	
<i>Rent</i>	\$ 60.00
<i>Gift Certificate x3</i>	75.00
Expense Total	\$ 135.00
Ending Balance:	\$1940.52



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.

For the month of September, cards were sent to:

Sympathy to Margaret Roark in the loss of her sister (in Tennessee) and her brother (in Nevada)

Thinking of You to Sharon Littlely who had knee replacement surgery.

Linda McCumber, Corresponding Secretary
LDMCRETIRED@YAHOO.COM
1-804-839-4671

PHOTOGRAPHS



Please send your activity photos for the on-line photo album to John Ekin at jmax806@live.com

HOSPITALITY



Tea & Coffee Social for New Members Sunday, November 17, 2019

Our Newcomers tea for our newest members will be held on November 17, from 3-5 pm. Vera Winkler has offered her home for this event, **110 Belle Meade Ln, Rockbridge Baths, Va** . You can sign up at the meeting or contact Linda Andrew, wayward45lja@gmail.com. Or 540-280-2533. Veteran members may bring an hors d'oeuvre or other treats. Look forward to seeing you. Directions will follow.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



John & Barbara Ekin, Janet Gibson, Kevin & Christine Merrill and Glen Gibson

On Saturday, Sept. 28th, Kevin & Christine Merrill, Glen & Janet Gibson and John & Barbara Ekin travelled to Swoope, VA for what was billed as the "lunatic" hay-ride tour of Polyface Farms.

While waiting for the tour to start we wandered around the outbuildings and store. We were amazed by the vast array of frozen organically produced meats available as well as farm fresh eggs, soft drinks, cookies, wool, and other typical items for sale.

Our guide and spokesman was Joel Salatin co-owner of the Farm. Polyface Farm uses no chemical fertilizers relying on composting natural products. Among the stops was the mobile chicken 'coops', an interesting system which effortlessly moved the chickens into fresh pasture. The use of solar powered electric fences in small areas allows for quickly shifting farm stock from one area of the pasture to another. Cows, as well as chickens & pigs are moved to a new pasture paddock roughly every day! This "natural model heals the land, thickens the forage, reduces weeds, stimulates earthworms, reduces pathogens and increases nutritional qualities in the meat." Good for the land and good for the 'happy' livestock.

The weather was perfect and a good time was had by all.

The Activities Committee is posting these upcoming events for your consideration.

The following two classes are at Lavender Fields at Tantivy Farms, 1350 Decatur Rd, Fairfield, VA 24435

1st class: **Living Advent Table Wreath**
Thursday, November 14th from 2:00-4:00 pm.

These wreaths are so beautiful and will add amazing fragrance to any room lucky enough to entertain your wreath during the Advent season and for many days following. Herbs growing in their Advent Garden will be used. Boxwood, horehound, juniper, lavender, rosemary, rue, sage and thyme. They will discuss the meaning of the herbs as they relate to the Christmas season and the significance of lighting each Sunday's candle. The class will be led by Penny Ross, co-owner of Tantivy Farms.

The cost is \$40.00 and will include an oasis wreath form in a dish (this is a live wreath), 4 candles, purple and pink with holder and all greens and herbs. Lavender themed refreshments will be served.

Please email Lauralee Hart in advance at lauraleesorensen@yahoo.com if you wish to attend. The class is limited to 8 people. Another date can be added if there is interest. You must sign up in advance. Make checks payable to: Tantivy Farms and mail them to: Lauralee Hart, 10 West Oaks Drive, Lexington, VA 24450. Again, please email me before you send a check. Thank you.

2nd class: **Holiday Wreath Making**
Tuesday, November 19th from 2:00-4:00 pm

'Tis the season of all things lovely and bright. There is a lot of hustle and bustle that goes along with the next few months, but it's also a time to settle in with hot apple cider, hot chocolate and pretty cookies. Get in touch with your creative side. Join Penny Ross of Tantivy Farms for an afternoon with a couple of hours

with friends new and familiar. Inhale the fragrance of the season, create a wreath that is all your own work. Penny will provide you with a wire frame, wire, picks, mixed greens and herbs, berries, rosehips, cones of all sizes and shapes, ribbon and bows. You are welcome to bring greens from your own yard.

The cost is \$35.00 all materials included. If you have clippers, please bring them with you. Penny will have extras available.

Please email Lauralee Hart in advance at lauraleesorensen@yahoo.com if you wish to attend. The class is limited to 8 people. Another date can be added if there is interest. You must sign up in advance. Make checks payable to: Tantivy Farms and mail them to: Lauralee Hart, 10 West Oaks Drive, Lexington, VA 24450. Again, please email me before you send a check. Thank you.

Quilt Museum

Interested in Quilts??? Join us at the Virginia Quilt Museum in Harrisonburg on **Thursday, October 17th**. The museum is open 10:00-4:00 pm. We will meet at the museum (unless car pools are arranged prior) at 10:00.

The museum offers three floors of rotating, curated gallery space. They feature quilts from the Museum's collection as well as traveling exhibitions. Heirloom quilts, contemporary quilts and art quilts are also typically featured simultaneously.

Depending on timing, those interested can also visit another quilt/fabric shop called Rag Time Fabrics <https://http://www.ragtimefabrics.com> on Market Street which is near the Quilt Museum. Also we can visit the Shenandoah Heritage Market <https://shenandoahmarket.net/> The latter has a nice country café as well as many quaint shops to browse. Both Rag Time & The Heritage Market are open from 10:00-6:00. There are many additional shops in

Harrisonburg if anyone needs some “retail therapy”.

Please contact Barbara Ekin barbara.ekin@comcast.net if you are interested in this activity



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 if you would like more information. We are open to new members!

Botanical Garden tour

It’s been a few years since the group travelled to Richmond to visit the Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens to see and enjoy their Holiday decorations. Beautiful gardens, holiday lights and the sounds of the season. This can be an overnight trip for those who want to spend more time in Richmond. Lots of shopping, restaurants and museums. If you’re interested in this activity, please email Lauralee at lauraleesorensen@yahoo.com and I’ll set up a date for signup. The group could meet for lunch or an early dinner please going to the gardens. This event would be after Thanksgiving and before Christmas.

The Newcomer’s Activities Committee is looking for a few people to help plan the next years activities. It is fun and will only take a few hours of your time. Share your ideas and talents. Please contact Bill Stone, Barbara Ekin or Lauralee Hart if you are interested.

Battlefield Tours:

The ever-popular battlefield tours will return next year. Dick and George are going to start their 2020 battlefield tour planning later this year. the choices should be narrowed down in December.

INTEREST GROUPS

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

Dining In/Fine Dining Group

Do you enjoy visiting with a small intimate group of friends over a delicious meal? Then please consider joining the “Fine Dining Group”!! As a participant you’ll be a part of the three dinners during the year at member’s homes. I coordinate the dining assignments so that at each dinner you’re eating with a new group (usually around 8 people at each meal).

Members should be prepared to host one dinner during the year. Hosts determine the menu, coordinate with their guests to choose a suitable date and time, and assign recipes for the meal. Hosts generally find it easy to come up with a theme or menu for the dinner. Members should be prepared to be open to trying new cooking experiences and recipes!

The cost of each dinner is split evenly among the participants so hosting isn’t a financial burden. You needn’t be a “couple”... singles welcome!

I am looking for new members to join or be substitutes. We are looking forward to welcoming them into Fine Dining. No worries, the first year you do not have to host.

I'll be sending out the request for Host to sign-ups for the Fall, Winter, and Spring dinners soon, so please contact me, Jane Stange, at 703-969-4023 or pstange@embargmail.com with any questions or to have your name added to the list.

SOMETHING SPECIAL-Bill Stone, a Fine Dining Member, has asked us to make desserts for the Holiday Party. His idea is to have some fun with it and have a little competition for a prize (Gift Certificate). It will also be open to the general membership but he thought it was something we would enjoy. Send me your thoughts.

Mystery Dinner

From the Detective Bureau: So far, we've had great success at three of the four parties but have not solved "The Wall Street Scandal". The final attempt will be made in early November.

More "gumshoes" are probably needed for 2020. For information about the mystery dinners, contact: George Grasse, gandg@histomin.com

Wine Tasting Group



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

November). However, with the loss of our local sommelier the wine tasting group is taking a break this fall. They hope to have something in place by January.

The Kroger down in Daleville is possibly willing to set us up with a selection of wines. But do people want to travel that far to pick up wine? Could tasters please let me know what they think about this? Barb Tyner rbtyner@gmail.com

Anyone interested in joining may contact Barb Tyner at rbtyner@gmail.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 points (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



BUNCO!

Bunco is an easy dice game of chance and an opportunity to spend time with friends.

The Fourth Thursday morning Bunco group starts with a light breakfast/brunch served by the hostess, after which the group plays from 9:30 to 10:45-11:00. Anyone interested in becoming a member or being on the substitute list please call or email Diana Hopkins, 348- 6946 or 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 or 540-460-1654.



Pinochle Club

Pinochle will continue playing for the summer. On June 12 we will play at the home of Bill Stone and Joe Little. Anyone, whether they know the game or not, is invited to play. It is easy to learn, and we play for fun. We would like to maintain two tables of four players, so substitutes are always welcome, and some can play monthly. We play two games with a refreshment intermission provided by the host. The play goes from 2 until about 4:30 on the second Wednesday of the month. For more information, contact Marilou Schindler 291-2992.

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 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.

A third group, which would meet in the evening, is under consideration. If you are interested, please contact Bill Stone at kingsway807@yahoo.com



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



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



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, or Debbie Maurer, 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 at wayward45lja@gmail.com or call 540-280-2533.

Coffee anyone??



Are you interested in possibly getting together for coffee socially, once or twice a month, at a local establishment with other members of the Newcomers Club? If so, please let Pat Thompson know. Her email is: Ptapex@aol.com. If there's enough interest in doing something like this, these very casual get-togethers would be held as simply another way to get to know each other better as we settle into the area.

Calendar

October

- 1 Canasta
- 2 Club Meeting**
- 4 Hiking
- 9 Pinochle
- 11 Hiking
- 16 Bunko
- 17 *Quilt Museum*
- 17 *Wayne Theatre, dinner & show*
- 18 Hiking
- 22 Canasta
- 24 Page Turners Book Club
- 24 Bunco
- 25 Hiking

November

Please note, Thanksgiving is the fourth Thursday. Groups that meet that day have been cancelled.

- 1 Hiking
- 5 Canasta
- 6 Club Meeting**
- 8 Hiking
- 13 Pinochle
- 14 Advent Wreath, Lavender Fields
- 15 Hiking
- 19 Christmas Wreath, Lavender Fields
- 20 Bunko
- 22 Hiking
- 28 Thanksgiving
- 28 Page Turners Book Club
- 28 Bunco
- 28 Canasta
- 29 Hiking