

# Greater Lexington Newcomers

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

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Newcomers,



Happy Spring. Flowers are blooming, birds are chirping, and trees are growing their green canopies. As Mother Nature emerges from winter, people are beginning to emerge from the pandemic's restrictions after getting their vaccine shots.

On that hopeful note, for those who feel comfortable gathering as a group I have scheduled a Newcomers meeting on Wednesday, May 5 at the Lexington Golf and Country Club at 10:00 AM. I'd like to use this meeting to simply greet friends and catch up on the past year. It's been a long time since we've met. There will be a short business meeting to let you know what's going on with Newcomers Club activities.

At the time of this writing, the Country Club requests visitors to please wear masks while inside the facility. We're not completely out of the woods yet! I will be working with the Banquet Manager to follow the best practices in place at the time of our meeting.

One announcement I will happily make: the winner of the Greater Lexington Newcomers Club's logo contest winner. I do not know who won either! I'll find out along with you all when I read this newsletter.

The nominating committee will soon begin meeting to put together a slate of officers and standing committee chairmen for next year. The committee will present their slate in May, and the election will take place in June.

Another activity I'd like to bring up at the meeting is whether you, the membership, want to hold a picnic in July or August. If you do, the planning should begin soon – at least to secure a date and place to hold a picnic. It's not too soon!

I look forward to May 5 – our first meeting since March 2020.

Suzanne Williams, President



## CLUB OFFICERS

**President**  
Suzanne Williams

**Vice President**  
Jack Littley

**Treasurer**  
Julie Eckles

**Corresponding Secretary**  
Claudette Benavitch

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Activities**  
Barbara Ekin

**Hospitality**  
Carol Humphries  
Janet Gibson

**Membership**  
Marilou Schindler

**Name Tags**  
Marilou Schindler

**Publicity**  
Steve Patterson

**Welcome**  
Pat Anthony

And the winner is....



Jan-Willem Boer



Congratulations and thank you to the following members who submitted drawings.

Deb Bodner

Julie Eckles

Carol Humphries

Sue Whitsitt

Duncan Charlton

Diane Weaver

Kevin Merrill

Martha Ekdahl

### TREASURERS REPORT

April, 2021

Submitted by Julie Eckles



<b>Prior balance</b> (October report)	<b>\$ 4,819.38</b>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>Current Balance</b>	<b>\$ 4,819.38</b>

### THINKING OF YOU

No cards were sent this past month. We are thinking of everyone and hoping this means that we are all staying well. Please let me know when there is a need for a card to be sent and I will respond.

Claudette Benavitch, Corresponding Secretary  
[cmbenav@gmail.com](mailto:cmbenav@gmail.com)



### MEMBERSHIP

There were no new members this past month. Any changes, i.e., email, phone number or address, should be forwarded to me at [Marilous@aol.com](mailto:Marilous@aol.com)

## ACTIVITIES

The Historic Masonic Theatre & Amphitheatre in Clifton Forge has posted their summer schedule of events starting in June. If interested in more details, please see their website: [https://All Events | HISTORIC MASONIC THEATRE AND AMPHITHEATRE](https://All_Events_HISTORIC_MASONIC_THEATRE_AND_AMPHITHEATRE) Here are their Friday and/or Saturday evening June concerts, all in their outside Amphitheater.

Saturday, June 4 @ 7:30 P.M. Scott Miller Trio “Miller combines the emotional honesty and intelligence of a singer/songwriter with the swagger and enthusiasm of a rock & roller... a gifted and eclectic solo artist.” Tickets \$25.00

Friday, June 11 @ 7:30 P.M. Al Wittig Jazz Quartet A variety of styles of jazz music: swing, smooth jazz, funk, Blues, Latin grooves, ballads, and original music.

Friday, June 18 @ 7:30 P.M. The Wannabeatles “Grammy nominated entertainers performing Beatle standards, parodies & on-stage antics.”

Friday, June 25 @ 7:30 P.M. Calista Garcia “Indie folk-rock singer & songwriter.”

If there is enough interest and we are able to attend as a group, we will attempt to get group ticket rates.

## INTEREST GROUPS

*Interest group participants must be members of Newcomers. To join an interest group, call or email the contact person. Editor’s note: Most of the interest groups are currently on hold. When it is safe to resume in-person group events, they will start up again.*



### **BUNKO**

Come roll with the Bunko ladies! On the second Thursday of the month, we have a virtual bunko group using Zoom. All that is required is access to a computer, iPad or equivalent, or smart phone using Zoom and 3 dice.

The Wednesday Bunko group will start playing in person on the third Wednesday of the month beginning in May at 1:00 p.m. We currently taking names for subs for this group.

If you are interested in learning to play, we would love to teach you. For more information, please contact Aileen Spurgeon at [spurgchick@gmail.com](mailto:spurgchick@gmail.com) or 540-460-1654.



## CANASTA

The two canasta groups that meet in the afternoon on the first and third Tuesday each month will resume meeting in May. Watch for an email in mid-April to confirm this. 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](mailto:cmtucker@comcast.net).



## Fine Dining – Dining Out

We will begin hosting dining out starting in May and going through July. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Aileen Spurgeon at (540) 460-1654 or [spurgchick@gmail.com](mailto:spurgchick@gmail.com). I will be happy to explain to any new people to our Newcomers Club how dining out is conducted.

## Fine Dining -- Dining In

Dining In will resume in September. The chairperson for Fine Dining is changing after six years when Jane Stange passes the honorary chef's toque/knife/whisk to Sharon Littlepage this fall.

We thank Jane for her enthusiasm and outstanding organizational skills and will continue to see her smiling face at our dinner tables in the future!

Sharon will take over as coordinator in the fall. New members are welcome.

## WHAT WE DO

Members attend three dinners per year and are required to host once every 4 sessions (depending on the total number of members). The Fine Dining coordinator assigns groups so that you will eat with different members at each dinner. Hosts plan the menu, coordinate selecting a date among their guests, and assign recipes to their guests.

Costs for meals are split evenly among all attending each dinner so that hosting isn't a costly burden. At meal's end, guests will provide the amount spent, and the host will add the individual costs and divide by the number of guests so that everyone pays the same amount. Checks or cash are accepted.

Some things to be mindful of:

- If you have a food allergy or dietary restriction, please let your hosts know. Adjusting a menu to meet your specific requirements and perhaps those of others means that menu planning can be quite complicated.
- Arrive on time.
- Don't complain if you don't like a dish. You will know in advance what's being served, so consider bringing a substitute food as you enjoy the company of the other diners.

If you are interested in joining in the fall, learning more about the group, or being a substitute, you can reach Sharon at [s.littlepage@comcast.net](mailto:s.littlepage@comcast.net) or (865) 368-8604



### **Wine Tasting Group**

A new chairperson is needed for the Wine Tasting group.



### **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)

As the weather is turning warmer and it is relatively safe for small groups to gather outside, the hiking group is easing into resuming hikes. We will continue to observe social distancing and masks will be required. We still encourage you to stay active and plan your own solo hikes.

**NOTE:** We will be participating in the 26th annual Rockbridge County Cleanup on Friday, April 16th. Our area to cleanup will be Route 60 from Forge Road to the Dumpsters. We will meet on the BV Food Lion parking lot at 9 AM. Safety vests to wear and bags will be provided. Please mark your calendar. The more hands we have the faster it will be to complete. Let's keep Rockbridge County beautiful!

You don't have to be a regular hiker to help with the clean-up.