

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

Vol. 29 Issue 9 – June 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Newcomers,

This is my final column as President of the Greater Lexington Newcomers Club. What an interesting time! Thank you to all who provided the guidance and encouragement I needed during the Pandemic Pause. Your ideas and suggestions helped keep Newcomers viable during the time when Covid 19 kept us masked at home!

A big thank you to Jim and Jo Ann Ritterbusch for developing and maintaining the GLNC Facebook Page. The new Facebook Page is a colourful and informative supplement to our great GLNC web page and Newsletter.

Thank you to those who participated in the GLNC Logo Contest: Jan-Willem Boer (the winner), Deb Bodner, Duncan Charlton, Julie Eckles, Martha Ekdahl, Carol Humphries, Kevin Merrill, Diane Weaver and Sue Whitsitt.

I also want to thank the Executive Committee for being a great sounding board. We had lots of good chats and exchanges. They helped keep the wheels on the bus.

Welcome to the new officers who will take over in September: President Jack Littley; Vice President Larry Spurgeon; Treasurer John Ekin, and Corresponding Secretary Claudette Benavitch.

Please note the annual picnic will not be at the usual time and place! This year's picnic will be in September! Mark your calendar for September 19 at Glen Maury Park. There will be fried and baked chicken from Kenny's. Please bring your favorite picnic side-dish and dessert to share with others. There will also be music so wear your dancing shoes!

Deb and Tim Dawson are pulling together events they see which may be of interest to Newcomers. Please check the end of this newsletter for what they have found so far. Updates will go out during the summer months.

As the kids say, "It's been real." Enjoy the summer with family and friends. See you in September.

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

TREASURERS REPORT
May1, 2021
Submitted by Julie Eckles



Prior balance (April report)	\$ 4,750.38
Total income (dues)	\$ 170.00
Total Expenses	\$ (408.00)
Rent	(\$ 170.00)
Gift Certificates	(\$ 113.00)
Chamber of Commerce dues	(\$ 125.00)
Current Balance	\$ 4,512.38

THINKING OF YOU

Cards were sent to the following members this past month.

Linda McCumber - a thinking of you card following a serious fall

Wes Womelsdorf - get well soon card

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



MEMBERSHIP

We welcomed two new members this past month:

Steve and Anita Givens
302 S. Jefferson St
Lexington, VA 24450
Stegivens.givens@gmail.com
Angivens3@gmail.com

This brings our membership to 208. Any changes, i.e., email, phone number or address, should be forwarded to me at Marilous@aol.com



PHOTOGRAPHS

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

PICNIC

MARK YOUR CALENDAR.

When **SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19.** Where- Glen Maury Park(double decker pavilion)
Time- Afternoon. Will let you know exact times later.

Menu-Kenny's baked and fried chicken will be supplied by the club. Ice tea, water, and lemonade will be provided. All utensils, cups and paper products will also be provided. We will be getting an ABC permit for the day. You can BYO wine or beer.

You bring an appetizer, side dish, salad, or dessert. What ever you want.

Cost: \$5.00 per person

Make checks out to: Greater Lexington Newcomers

Send it to: Jane Stange, 112 Woodridge Ln, Lexington, VA 24450

We can always use help planning, setting up, and take down. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our long awaited picnic. My Email is Jstange5440@gmail.com or phone is 703-969-4023

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

If you are vaccinated, the fourth Thursday morning Bunco group has resumed in-person playing. If you are interested in learning an easy dice game of chance, as well as having an opportunity to spend the morning with friends, join us. After a light breakfast is served by the hostess, the group plays from 9:00 to 10:45-11:00. Please call or email Diana Hopkins if you are interested, 348- 6946 or vatxrok@me.com.

Come roll with the Bunko ladies! If you are vaccinated, the Wednesday Bunko group will be playing in person on the third Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. We have an opening for a regular member, as well as taking names for subs for this group. If you would like to learn to play, we would love to teach you. For more information, please contact Aileen Spurgeon at spurgchick@gmail.com or 540-460-1654.



CANASTA

There are two canasta groups. One group of eight, “The Black 3’s”, plays on the second Tuesday of each month and the other group of eight, “The Red 3’s”, plays on the third Tuesday of each month. Each group meets in the home of a member of that group for a fun afternoon of cards, snacks and dessert.

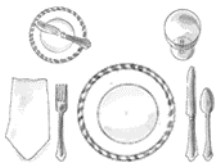
If you would like to become a sub for one or both groups, please contact Cynthia Tucker, 463-3344, cmtucker@comcast.net.

The third Canasta group, “After 6 pm”, is looking to restart sometime over the summer. As before, it will be a “floating play date” each month depending on when the most players can gather. The players will rotate hosting; each person will bring a dish for a light dinner before the cards are dealt. We usually had 2 tables of 4, sometimes 3 tables of 4, but always had a great time. We are looking for the ol' gang as well as any other new Canasta players. Not ready to commit? There is always a need for subs. Also, under consideration is a brunch option if that fits better into schedules.

If you are interested or have questions please contact Jo Ritterbusch, blueridgecorgis@gmail.com or call or text, 661 9075.

PINOCHLE

The pinochle group will begin playing on July 14 at the home of Fritz and Marilou Schindler. We are seeking anyone interested in joining the pinochle group as a substitute when someone is unable to play on a given month. We play two games of double deck pinochle on the second Wednesday of the month on a rotating schedule at players' houses beginning at 2:00. At intermission, a dessert and beverage are served by the host. We complete the games by 4:30. Interested members, call Marilou Schindler 291-2992.



FINE DINING – DINING OUT

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



Two groups have already enjoyed the good company and good food of dining out. This group (Dave Lusk, Deb Bodner, Bob Biersack, Fred Massey, Sue Whitsitt, Debbie & Rick Slater, Jan Smith was the photographer) enjoyed seafood choices at Blu Pointe Seafood in Staunton.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Aileen Spurgeon at (540) 460-1654 or 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

This interest group will appeal to Newcomers who enjoy the art of planning a themed meal for a group of 8 diners in different members' homes.

New members are welcome. 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 or (865) 368-8604

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.



WINE TASTING GROUP

The wine tasting group will start up in September, but we may have a preliminary get-together in July or August to sip some wine and discuss everyone's ideas about how we would like to structure our events.

If you're interested in joining the wine tasting group, please call, text, or email Sally Canatsey at 703.593.5963 or sallycan@verizon.net



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

The Newcomers Hiking group is back on the trail and has done a number of hikes in the past few months. On April 30th we toured (not really a hike) the Quarry Gardens near Schuyler VA. It was a very nice tour with lots of information on the wildflowers and history of the soapstone quarries. Worth a visit: <https://quarrygardensatschuyler.com/>. May 7th we hiked from Thunder Ridge to Petites Gap and saw fields of trilliums in the forest. Pretty amazing! On May 14 we set up a "feeding station" at Long Mountain Wayside where the AT crosses Route 60 and became Trail Angels - that is we fed 21 AT hikers as they passed by. They were very grateful for all that was provided. May 21st was a hike to John's Hollow shelter on the AT and May 28th was a hike to Chimney and Calvary Rocks off Skyline Drive where the Mountain laurel were starting to bloom. And then lunch at Blue Mountain Brewery! Fun (and food) for all!



ACTIVITIES

There are many events going on over the summer. The ones listed below have the earliest dates. As events of interest come up, the activities committee will send an email as well as posting to the Facebook page.

AVP 50 Over 50 Project Photo Exhibit June 4 – 6

Heliotrope Brewery (128 S Main Street, Lexington) will have a collection of photographs from the Anne Valerie Portrait on display. This project, conceived by Valerie Johnson, celebrates the character, personality and beauty of women over fifty.

BVFD Carnival May 31 – June 5 6:00 pm

Camden Field Magnolia Avenue and W 10th Street, Buena Vista
Food * Games * Rides \$15 wristbands Entertainment TBA

FREE Summer Movie Series @ Hull's

June 02, 2021 6:30 pm - 11:00 pm

Hull's Drive-In Theatre 2367 N Lee Hwy. Lexington, VA 24450 (540) 463-2621

Mid-week movie series **every other Wednesday** evening beginning Wed, June 2nd. **FREE to attend.** Full concessions available - gates open @ 6:30, movie starts @ 9:00 Go to www.hullsdrivein.com for full schedule.

Jason Hostetter at Great Valley Farm Brewery & Winery

June 25, 2021 4:30 pm



Local favorite Jason Hostetter will be performing at Great Valley Farm Brewery & Winery starting at 4:30 p.m. Sit back with your favorite GVF beverage and enjoy the tunes.

Great Valley Farm Brewery & Winery
(60 Great Valley Farm Lane Natural Bridge, VA 24578)



Summer Music Series

The Historic Masonic Theatre & Amphitheatre in Clifton Forge, VA, has posted their summer schedule of events starting in June. For more details, please see their website: [https://All Events | HISTORIC MASONIC THEATRE AND AMPHITHEATRE](https://All_Events_|_HISTORIC_MASONIC_THEATRE_AND_AMPHITHEATRE) All concerts are in their outside Amphitheater.

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."

4th Annual Balloons Over Rockbridge Hot Air

July 02, 2021 - July 03, 2021 beginning at 2:00 pm

ADMISSION is free of charge.

Festival on July 2nd and 3rd at the Oak Hill Property of the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington. Following the cancellation of BOR 2020 due to Covid, the Board of Directors is more enthusiastic than ever to get the event underway.

FRIDAY, JULY 2: Music by Hoss & Boss will from 4-7pm and the group Rewind will highlight the evening from 7:30-9:30pm.

SATURDAY, JULY 3: a full day of music, food, games, vendors, crafters as well as piloted flights and tethered rides.

Live music by Keith Bryant from 2:30-4:30, South Ridge from 5-8pm and JoJo and Mojo from 7:30-9:30
The Ed McDaniel Memorial Balloon Glow will close out the evening after dark.

A detailed schedule can be found on their website: balloonsoverrockbridge.com

Music at Jordan's Point

Wednesday mornings, early, local musicians get together to jam at the Jordan's Point Park in Lexington. The public is welcomed to come and enjoy.

This is the last newsletter until September.

