

Greater Lexington Newcomers

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

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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

CLUB OFFICERS

President

Jack Littley

Vice President

Larry Spurgeon

Treasurer

John Ekin

Corresponding Secretary

Claudette Benavitch

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities

Jo Ritterbusch

Hospitality

Carol Humphries
Janet Gibson

Membership

Marilou Schindler

Name Tags

Marilou Schindler

Welcome

Pat Anthony

Publicity

Dear Newcomers,

The monthly Newcomer's business meeting was held on March 2 at Lexington Country Club. I filled in for President Jack Littley who was unable to attend. 41 members were present, a bit higher than our average over the past few months – a good turnout. There were no new members, but we were pleased to welcome three guests. Membership chair Marilou Schindler reported that 213 members have paid dues for the coming year, so our membership is strong and we have had many new members over the past months.

Karen Stanley, Operations Manager for Boxerwood Education Association, was the guest speaker. She joined Boxerwood's staff a year ago, and for 20 years before that was with the Virginia Department of Forestry. She provided background about Boxerwood's evolution from the Munger family home to the garden and nature preserve today. One of the principal missions for Boxerwood is education for children, and every child in Rockbridge visits the site multiple times through the educational programs in conjunction with county schools. There are several volunteer opportunities, including educational programs for plants, animals, and the water shed. Volunteers can also serve as weekend ambassadors to meet with visitors. A volunteer sign-up sheet was passed around for those who are interested. To learn more about the programs and volunteering go to <https://boxerwood.org/>. And don't miss out on the "Music in the Garden" on alternating Friday evenings from May through August. Live music, a food truck, and a beautiful setting at Boxerwood are the attractions. It is a great way to visit with people in the community, and it is free to members of Boxerwood.

The business agenda was light – John Ekin gave the treasurer's report, and we are in good shape. Jo Ritterbusch talked about her goals as the newly-draft events coordinator. We hope the club can have more events this year – everyone recognizing the impact the pandemic has had on our activities. The hospitality group's tea for new newcomers is tentatively set for April 24. The Wine Tasting group needs a new chair. The hiking group continues to hike. For more information about the club's activities please see the newsletters and the website. See you next month!

Larry Spurgeon, Vice-President

TREASURERS REPORT
February 2022
Submitted by John Ekin



THINKING OF YOU

Prior Balance	\$ 4,535.36
Total Income	\$ 550.00
Dues	\$ 550.00
Total Expenses	\$ (\$463.42)
Rent	(\$170.00)
Christmas party table decorations	(\$293.42)
Current Balance	\$ 4,621.94
As of February 28, 2022	

Cards were sent to the following members:

A Sympathy card to Carrie O’Sullivan for the loss of her husband Andy

A Get Well/Recovery card to Jerry Acuff

Please let me know when there is a need for a card to be sent and I will respond.

Claudette Benavitch, Corresponding Secretary
secretary@lexvanewcomers.org



PHOTOGRAPHS

Please send your activity photos for the on-line photo album to John Ekin at webmaster@lexvanewcomers.org



MEMBERSHIP

We have 213 paid members. If you are not sure if you paid your dues or wish to be dropped, please contact me by email at marilous@aol.com

The email address for Holly Byerly was incorrect in the last newsletter. The correct email address is seak8go@gmail.com

Please welcome new members since February’s meeting:

Ruth and Jimbo Smith
 12 Evergreen Tree Ln
 Lexington, VA 24450
Ruth3228@gmail.com
Jasiii3962@gmail.com

Former members
 Tom and Diane Weaver
 4678 Forge Rd
 Glasgow, VA 24555
tomwvr1@gmail.com
dianeew@aol.com

Any changes, i.e., email, phone number or address, should be forwarded to me at membership@lexvanewcomers.org

ACTIVITIES

Jo Ritterbusch is the newly drafted chair for events for groups. If you hear or know of concerts, plays, movies, etc., that might appeal to the members, pass the information along to Jo and she can investigate further. Her email is blueridgecorgis@gmail.com.

INTEREST GROUPS

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



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, 540-348-6946 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 regular members, 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 daytime 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, "Canasteez", meets the 2nd Friday of the month with the start time at the discretion of the host. Each person will bring a dish for a light dinner before the cards are dealt. We usually have 2 tables of 4, sometimes 3 tables of 4, but always have 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. If you are interested or have questions please contact Jo Ritterbusch, blueridgecorgis@gmail.com or call or text, 845-661 9075.

PINOCHLE

Another Newcomer member recently joined the group, bringing the total players to 11. However, due to COVID and winter weather, some members are not available to play every month. Therefore, we are seeking anyone interested in joining the pinochle group. We strive for two tables of four, but during these months, it is difficult to achieve. We play two games of double deck pinochle on the second Wednesday of the month on a rotating schedule at players' houses beginning at 1:30. At intermission, a dessert and beverage are served by the host. We complete the games by 4:30. Interested Newcomers, call Marilou Schindler 291-2992 . We will be playing at the home of Carol Humphries on Wednesday, March 9.

BOARD SILLY

Newcomers newest group, "Board Silly", is now 'traipsing' around the gameboards at full steam! We meet on the 1st Friday of the month. Start time is at the discretion of the host. Each gamer takes a turn hosting, and selects the game of the day! So far, we have played Tripoley and Monopoly, and I am happy to report all Board Sillies got out of jail free! Can't wait to see where our 'boardwalking' takes us in 2022!

If you are interested in joining us, contact JoAnn Ritterbusch at blueridgecorgis@gmail.com or call or text, 845-661 9075.



MORNING COFFEE (OR TEA)

The ladies' coffee club meets the second Friday of every month at 10 a.m. generally at Sweet Treats. Email Pat Thompson at Ptapex@aol.com for more information.



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 6 to 8 (including the hosts). Group members then sign up to join their hosts for a meal out!

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 in more detail how dining out is conducted.

DINING IN

Fine Dining hopes to resume in April. The group currently has 45 members.

Coordinator Sharon Littlepage will contact all members via email at the beginning March, to sign up as hosts for the spring session (April, May, and June). In a departure from previous years, summer dinners in July and August will also be under consideration.

For additional information about Fine Dining, contact Sharon at s.littlepage@comcast or (865) 368-8604.



WINE TASTING GROUP

The wine tasting group is in need of a new coordinator. This person will solicit hosts from the group and put together the guest lists, and works with Washington Purveyors to select on a type of wine for the tasting. Washington Purveyors will select the actual wines. Sally Canatsey will pass along the information she has and share the group's contact information and hosting preferences with whomever takes over. In the spring and summer there will be many more hosts so everyone who wishes to attend should be able to!

If you are interested, please contact Sally at sallycan@verison.net or text her at 703-593-5963. Also let Jack Littley know (drjackl12@gmail.com).



HIKING GROUP

The Newcomers Hiking Group hikes every Friday weather permitting. Each week Don (or his appointee) announces where the hike will be including a relative degree of difficulty and elevation. If you would like to be on the email list, email Don Brooke, donbrooke@gmail.com, or Debbie Maurer, 2mtprs@gmail.com



