

Greater Lexington Newcomers

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

EDITOR: Deb Bodner – newsletter@lexvanewcomers.org

WEB SITE: John Ekin - www.lexvanewcomers.org

Vol. 31 Issue 9 – June 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Newcomers,

The June business meeting for the Newcomers Club was at 10:00 on June 7. 34 members were present – no new members or guests. We did not have a speaker. The main business was the election of officers for the 2023-24 membership year. The members present unanimously voted to elect Duncan Charlton as Vice-President, John Ekin as Treasurer, and JackeRose Boston as Corresponding Secretary. Congratulations and thanks to all three for agreeing to serve. It is a great team to work with President David Connolly for the next year.

This was my last meeting to chair as president. It was an honor to serve – and what a great group of people we have in our membership, currently standing at 215. As I said at the meeting, the success of the club is due to the members who agree to serve in leadership roles. We are very fortunate to have such good leaders as officers and chairs of the various committees, activities, and interest groups. I would also like to express appreciation to Deb Bodner, editor of the newsletter, John Ekin, webmaster, Jo Ritterbusch, Facebook manager, Marilou Schindler, membership chair, and the welcome committee members, Pat Thompson, Rich Hubbard, and Ashley Mon. They provide quiet and unselfish service and the club could not function without them.

Speaking of the welcome committee, Pat and Rich are stepping down. Ashley will serve as the chair, but we need a couple of volunteers to help her at the meetings, and someone to prepare and monitor the name tags. Please let Ashley or David Connolly know if you are interested.

The next monthly business meeting will be on Wednesday, September 6 at 10:00 at the country club. [We do not have business meetings in July or August.] Not to fear, the many interest groups continue as normal through the summer, and we will continue to have the monthly Happy Hour. This month it will be on Tuesday, June 20, at Devil's Backbone, and for simplicity, it will be on the third Tuesday of the month going forward. We had 23 people in May!

Please mark your calendars for the club picnic – Saturday, October 7, at the upper pavilion at Glen Maury Park in Buena Vista – the same venue as the past few years. The time for the picnic will be determined later, and more information will be provided at the September

CLUB OFFICERS

President

David Connolly

Vice President

Duncan Charlton

Treasurer

John Ekin

Corresponding Secretary

JackeRose
Boston

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities

Aileen Spurgeon

Hospitality

Aileen Spurgeon

Membership

Marilou
Schindler

Name Tags

Welcome

Ashley Mon

Publicity

meeting. We will need some volunteers to set up and clean up. It is a potluck (no sign ups necessary). Kenney's chicken, tea, lemonade, etc., will be provided by the club. You can bring your own beer and wine.

Enjoy summer – it appears to have arrived full force after an unusually chilly spring!

Larry Spurgeon



TREASURERS REPORT
May 2023
 Submitted by John Ekin



THINKING OF YOU

Prior Balance	\$ 3,438.42
From April	
Total Expenses	\$ (270.50)
Country Club rent	\$ (170.00)
Anti-spam ser. renewal	\$ (100.00)
Service charge	\$ (00.50)
Current Balance	\$ 3,168.42
Reconciled with bank statement,	

Get Well cards were sent to:
 Jan Lowry, recovering from hip surgery
 Linda McCumber, recovering from knee surgery

Thinking of you card was sent to:
 Marcia Harris, recovering from hip surgery

Please let me know when there is a need for a card to be sent and I will respond.
 JackeRose Boston, Corresponding Secretary
secretary@lexvanewcomers.org



MEMBERSHIP

Our 2022-23 paid memberships to date are 215.

Please welcome new members:

Natalie Stevens
 15 Center Lane Apt E
 Lexington VA 24450
Stevens415@gmail.com

Robert and Laura Canody
 65 Rustic Ridge Lane
 Lexington VA 24450
thecanodys@rcsquared.co

If you have any changes in information, please contact Marilou Schindler at 540-291-2992 or email membership@lexnewcomers.org

HOSPITALITY

Happy Hour continues to be popular. We will continue this new tradition on the third Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting will be June 20 from 5-7 at Devil's Backbone. A lively crowd, with some new faces, got together at Devil's Backbone last month. Good times were had by all. It's a great chance to socialize. And maybe a game of musical chairs to insure chatting with everyone.



PHOTOGRAPHS

Did you know that there is a photo gallery on the web page? And it is in need of some current pictures! Please send photos of your activities for the on-line photo album to John Ekin at webmaster@lexvanewcomers.org

ACTIVITIES

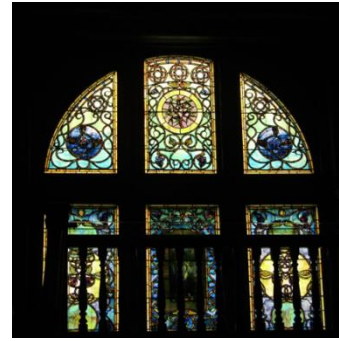
MAYMONT MANSION AND GARDENS



Twelve members toured the Maymont Mansion and gardens in Richmond: Don Brooke, Bill Sike, Larry and Aileen Spurgeon, Charlie and Peggy Page, Jane and Pat Stange, Deb Bodner and Dave Lusk, and John and Barbara Ekin. This elegant mansion, filled with unique and interesting treasures, is a true testament to the gilded age. Even though the flowers were not in bloom, the gardens were lovely. Especially nice were the Japanese Gardens with its pond and stepping stones.



The swan bed and the Tiffany window are two examples of the treasures to be found in the mansion



INTEREST GROUPS

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 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 Bunco ladies! If you are vaccinated, the Wednesday Bunco 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

“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 Lydia Shiver, lshiver1053@gmail.com



PINOCHLE

We aim to 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. We are seeking anyone interested in joining the pinochle group as

a substitute when someone is unable to play on a given month. The pinochle group will play at the home of Fritz and Marilou Schindler on June 21. Interested new members, call Marilou Schindler (540) 291-2992.

POKER

The stakes are high for a good time at the Newcomers Poker Group. Currently, the seven active members meet in the evenings on the third Wednesday of each month. There are three on the waiting list who are also active substitutes. Please contact Tom Weaver if you are interested in being a substitute: tomwvr1@gmail.com

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!

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 and fourth Friday of every month for breakfast or lunch. Generally, at Sweet Treats for a late breakfast and at different area restaurants for lunch. Email Pat Thompson at Ptapex@aol.com for more information.



DINING OUT

Each quarter volunteer hosts select a restaurant of their choice (usually in Lexington or within an hour's drive 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! Please note that we will be beginning our second quarter shortly (May-July).

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.



Newcomers enjoying dinner at Casa de Leones in Covington, hosted by the Culbersons.

DINING IN

Fine Dining will resume in September. In the interim, folks interested in joining should contact Sharon Littlepage, coordinator, at (865) 368-8604 or s.littlepage@comcast.net. New members are being accepted now. All that's required is an appreciation for fine food and interesting conversation, as well as a willingness to host occasionally.

The price is right, because participants split the cost of the dinner evenly. And for those who are having trouble keeping up with the new rules for tipping, there's no such thing in Fine Dining!



After an Italian dinner at the home of Debbie and Alan Maurer (right), guests gathered on the deck for a quick photo:(l-r): Jim Littlepage, Lynn and Ann Jones, and Elizabeth Hayden. Not pictured are Ashley and Glenn Mon and Sharon Littlepage.



WINE TASTING

There will be a different spin on the wine group in 2023. It will be dedicated to wine lovers looking to learn and to explore, and to those who want to know which wine to buy for that special occasion. The tastings will be about the wine. Each tasting will have a costar; a tasting of exotic cheeses, or interesting cracker/bread options. The tastings will cost more but we will taste some phenomenal wines (perhaps in the 30-40 dollar per person range per tasting). I expect there to be 3-4 tastings this year. Let me know if you might be interested in participating in this adventure. Email me, Art Shaw, at artie@snazzybeads.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. The Group will attempt to occasionally offer hikes on a Saturday so if you haven't signed up yet because of the Friday only hikes consider sending me your name and email address to add to the hiking emails so that you will see when a Saturday hike is offered. Send to donbrooke@gmail.com

