

Greater Lexington Newcomers

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

EDITOR: Deb Bodner – newsletter@lexvanewcomers.org

WEB SITE: John Ekin - www.lexvanewcomers.org

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CLUB OFFICERS

President

David Connolly

Vice President

Duncan Charlton

Treasurer

John Ekin

Corresponding Secretary

JackeRose

Boston

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Activities

Janet Gibson

Hospitality

Aileen Spurgeon

Membership

Marilou Schindler

Name Tags

Welcome

Ashley Mon

Publicity

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Newcomers,

Our regularly scheduled monthly meeting was held in the newly renovated upstairs space of the LGCC at 10AM. Approximately 35 members and 5 guests attended. Our Treasurer John Ekin, a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity, gave an excellent presentation on how this organization is transforming people's lives and transforming our community. Habitat volunteers and homeowners are currently building three new homes for deserving families in the Greenhouse Road area, near the Recycling Center. Habitat has built approximately 30 homes in our community and has new property off South Main Street to build more homes in the coming years!

I am looking forward to our yearly Holiday Party, which is scheduled for Wednesday December 6 from 3-5 at the Horse Center. The cost will be \$15 for members and \$20 for guests. We have a list of volunteers who are helping with decorations, but we can always use more the day before the party. We also plan to have our annual dessert contest. More details to come.

If you haven't already paid your annual dues, please do so **ASAP!** Most of our Holiday Party and meeting facilities expenses are paid for with your dues. Annual dues were due by November, but we will accept late payments up to the Holiday Party. Please pay online or send checks made out to GLNC to Marilou Schindler, 160 Pear Blossom Lane, Natural Bridge, VA 24578.

Again, thanks for giving me the opportunity to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,
David Connolly





Celebrate the holidays with your Newcomer friends on **December 6 from 3 to 5 p.m.** at the Virginia Horse Center, 487 Maury River Road, Lexington. The club covers most of the cost, however, there is a nominal charge of **\$15/member and \$20/guest**. Checks should be made out to GLNC and sent to Marilou Schindler. We need a head count by November 30. If you are coming, please email Duncan Charlton at duncan.charlton54@gmail.com. If you would like to volunteer to help decorate, contact Jo Ritterbusch at blueridgecorgis@gmail.com.

TREASURERS REPORT
October 2023
Submitted by John Ekin

Prior Balance	\$ 3,984.77
From September	
Total Income	\$ 1,810.00
2023-24 Dues	\$ 1,625.00
Picnic	\$ 185.00
Total Expenses	\$ (415.00)
Virginia Horse Center rent	\$ (225.00)
Flyer printing for CoC Welcome bags	\$ (40.00)
Picnic Pavilion rental	\$ (150.00)
Current Balance 10/31/23	\$ 5,379.77
Reconciled with the current bank statement	



THINKING OF YOU

No cards have been sent recently. Stay healthy!

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 2023-24 paid memberships to date are 137. The deadline for dues has passed. To avoid being dropped from membership, **please submit your check now**. Dues are \$25/person; send your check, made out to Greater Lexington Newcomers Club, to Marilou Schindler, 160 Pear Blossom Lane, Natural Bridge, VA 24578

Out of a concern for privacy and security, the suggestion was made to no longer include contact information for new members in the newsletter. The membership list on the website is kept up to date and is password protected. If you have forgotten the password, contact the Vice-President, Duncan Charlton.

Please welcome the following new members who have joined since the October meeting:
Lindsay Andre', MaryAnn McDevitt, and Cary Oliva

If you have any changes in your 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 second Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting will be November 8 from 5-7 at Devil's Backbone. A lively crowd has been coming, and good times have been had by all. It's a great chance to socialize.



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

Deb Bodner and David Lusk, Sharon and Dennis Culberson, and Aileen and Larry Spurgeon all met at the Museum of Transportation in Roanoke, VA on October 28. Everyone enjoyed seeing all the trick or

treaters dressed up for the Halloween event hosted at the Museum, as well as viewing the numerous cars, train engines, and aeronautics displays featured. When done, everyone met and had lunch at Twisted Tracks Brewery near the museum. It was a beautiful warm day and a great outing.



School bus from a by-gone era



Lunch at the Twisted Track

OF GENERAL INTEREST

Thunder BRidge, a local arts and cultural community, is having an open house on November 11th, starting at 11:11am. There will be live bands, food trucks and the art studios will be open. Campus is located at 1455 Arnolds Valley Road in Natural Bridge Station. For more information and a list of featured artists check out their website <https://thunderbridge.my.canva.site/>

The Duplicate Bridge Club of Lexington is open to new players. They welcome all from beginners through advanced. Currently, they play a 3 ½-hour game each Monday at The Lexington Country Club. The game begins at 12:30 p.m.; they ask that you sign up at least 2 hours ahead of time. This is necessary to ensure that each participant has a partner. For more information call Robert Textor for the Bridge Club of Lexington 540-784-4969 or Director Karen Jackson: 540-460-5474

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 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 are 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

The Pinochle group is seeking one more regular player and two substitutes. We play double-deck Pinochle and have "cheat sheets" available to help new players with rules and melds to help those who may have played by different melds or rules.

If we have eight players, we play two games. Other combinations of players require longer play and sometimes we cannot play two games between 1:30 and 4:30.

Hosts rotate and provide a dessert and beverage midway between the games. Our next play date will be November 8 at the home of Judy Koenig. Please contact Marilou Schindler if interested, marilous@aol.com.

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

The "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! The next quarter for Dining Out will be January - March, 2024.

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

In recent years, the restaurant options have declined. For Newcomers, there is an alternative: the Fine Dining/Dining In interest group. And the price is right as participants split the cost of the dinner evenly. If you have trouble keeping up with the tipping rules, it doesn't exist in Fine Dining! The Winter session begins after Christmas. The group's coordinator, Sharon Littlepage, creates the guest lists. Hosts get to choose their dinner theme and assign recipes. You will dine with different people every time. To sign up, contact Sharon Littlepage, coordinator, at (865) 368-8604 or s.littlepage@comcast.net. For additional information about the group, go to the Fun Stuff page on the website www.lexvanewcomers.org



WINE TASTING

I am formally announcing my departure as the leader of the wine tasting group because of a lack of interest. I will be more than happy to assist if anyone else wishes to take the reins. Contact Art Shaw, artie@snazzybeads.com, if you would like information about heading this group.



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 has begun offering 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 which Saturday a hike is offered. Send to donbrooke@gmail.com

Recent hikes included McAfee's Knob and a sunset hike on Cold Mountain



The recent hike to McAfee's knob offered a stunning 270-degree view



The sunset hike on Cold Mountain

Editor's Note: there will be no newsletter in December.

