

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

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Jacke Rose
Boston

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Activities

Janet Gibson

Hospitality

Aileen Spurgeon

Membership

Barbara Ekin

Name Tags

Jacke Rose
Boston

Welcome

Ashley Mon

Publicity

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Newcomers,

We had a relatively small turnout for our spring evening meeting at the LGCC. However, the members who were there enjoyed an informative talk on the North Rockbridge Art League, presented by our member Paula Zimmerman. This organization, spearheaded by Lee Charlton and Paula, is open to all artists in our area.

Don Brooke gave us an update on our planned trip to the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in May. Janet Gibson and Charley Page also informed us about planned tubing on the Jackson River in the summer, and a trip to Luray Caverns in the fall. Please read the newsletter for details about these exciting opportunities.

Next month, at our regular morning meeting, we will have a talk on the Blackfriars's Theatre in Staunton by Lia Wallace. Those who have heard her say her talk is not to be missed! Finally, I look forward to seeing you at the Happy Hour at Devil's Backbone next Wednesday April 10 from 5-7. Always a good time.

The election of officers is coming up. The nominating committee is the Executive Committee and three members-at-large, Aileen Spurgeon, Ashley Mon, and Deb Bodner. The elected positions are Vice-president, who will become President the following year, Treasurer and Secretary. The slate will be presented at the May meeting and voting will be in June.

Respectfully submitted,
David Connolly



TREASURERS REPORT
March 2024
 Submitted by John Ekin

Prior Balance	\$ 4,052.16
From February 2024	
Total Income	\$ 173.64
2023-2024 Dues	\$ 173.64*
TOTAL EXPENSES:	(\$ 170.00)
Lexington Country Club - room rental	(\$ 170.00)
Balance	
as of March 29, 2024:	\$ 4,055.80
This is reconciled with the latest bank balance.	
*dues paid via PayPal. PayPal charged \$1.36 for processing	



THINKING OF YOU

A card was sent to Jan Lowry following her recent knee 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 2023-24 paid memberships are 200.

If you have any changes to your information, please email the membership committee at membership@lexvanewcomers.org.

HOSPITALITY



Newcomers Tea and Coffee for our newest members will be Sunday, June 9, at 2-4 p.m. at Sarah O'Hanlon's, 1165 Little Dry Hollow, Lexington, VA 24450. We are asking that any current members (only 3 or 4 needed) willing to bring an appetizer or dessert to please contact Aileen Spurgeon at spurgchick@gmail.com. This is a good opportunity to get to know our newest members in a more casual setting.



Join us for Happy Hour on the second Wednesday of each month. Our next get together will be April 10 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

To sign up for an activity, or for more information, contact the trip organizer with your name, # of people in your party and your contact info. You will receive trip details, including payment method, carpooling info, restaurant options, etc., leading up to the activity date.

The activities committee: Janet Gibson, Chair; Don Brooke; Charlie Page

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley near Winchester, VA - May 14

The various attractions include the Glenn Bernie House, Formal Gardens, and MSV gallery. The gallery is featuring the exhibit "*The Triumph of Nature: Art Nouveau*" from the Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA. This exhibit will show approximately 120 of the finest Art Nouveau treasures from the Chrysler Museum. Other exhibit of include Floral Portraits by Lynn Mocarski Maurer and American and British Art from the Julian Wood Glass, Jr. collection. And of course there are many exhibits of the early Shenandoah Valley culture. The 90-acre park has "The Trails" which meander through fields, woods, and wetlands with various outdoor art installations. The cost is \$8 (senior) if you buy tickets ahead of the date of our visit at the MSV website, <https://www.themsv.org>. This trip should have something for everyone.

The current plan is to leave Lexington at 8 am. Please contact Don Brooke at donbrooke@gmail.com or call at 540-280-4033 if you plan to attend and if you would like to carpool.

Jackson River Tubing Adventure near Covington - late July, date TBA



Tube down the crystal clear waters of the scenic Jackson River near Covington with Allegheny Outdoors Outfitters. Take in the great mountain views and as you relax and let the river move you gently along. This Trek & Tube experience requires you to carry your tube for a 0.3 mile (1500') walk along the Jackson River Bike Trail to launch on private property, and then enjoy a leisurely two-hour float around a 2.25 mile horseshoe bend back to the Adventure shop. Participants must know how to swim and be comfortable in the water. (*I have done this trip twice, and I assure you, it is a gentle float in water shallow enough to reach the bottom~Janet*). Life vests are provided. Cost is \$22. Check out the website at <https://alleghenyoutdoors.com/activities/trek-and-tube/>.

Sign up by contacting organizer Janet Gibson at janethgibson@gmail.com

Luray Caverns Tour & More near Luray - October date TBA



Reflecting Pool

Take a self-guided tour of the beautiful caverns (approximately one hour) along well-lighted, paved walkways that lead you through cathedral-sized rooms with ceilings 10-stories high, towering stone formations, and natural wonders at every turn. Fee of \$24 includes the Caverns tour, Car & Carriage Caravan Museum and the Shenandoah Heritage Village. Check out the website at <https://luraycaverns.com/explore/>

Sign up by contacting organizer Charlie Page at chasdpage@gmail.com

The **Rockbridge Area Master Gardeners Association** will be holding its annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 11 from 8:30 to noon. It will be at the Ruritan Barn, 1260 Valley Pike, Lexington. Several Newcomers are members and can share information about this group.

INTEREST GROUPS

To join an interest group, call or email the contact person.



BUNCO

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 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. 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 meeting on the second Wednesday of the month at 1:30. We play double-deck Pinochle and have "cheat sheets" available to with rules and melds to help those who may have played by different melds or rules. Generally we play two games between 1:30 and 4:30. Hosts rotate and provide a dessert and beverage midway between the games. We will be playing at the home of Joe Little on March 13 at 1:30.

If you are interested, please contact Marilou Schindler for more information at 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. 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 May-July, 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

Sick and tired of eating your own cooking or confronting yet another frozen meal hot out of the microwave? If the answer is yes, perhaps it's time to try something different. The Fine Dining interest group offers creative cuisine, interesting conversation, and an opportunity to meet different people at every meal.

The final sessions for Fine Dining take place in April, May, and June. Contact coordinator Sharon Littlepage at (865) 368-8604 if you'd like to participate. For more information visit the website at [https://www.lexvanewcomers.org/fun stuff/interest groups](https://www.lexvanewcomers.org/fun%20stuff/interest%20groups).



from one of the winter Fine Dining sessions. Tina Miller (not pictured) and Kirk Miller (center) entertained (L-R) Dennis and Sharon Culberson, Jane Stange, Mary Henslee and Steve Sanders. Attending, but not pictured, was Patrick Stange.



WINE TASTING

Marilou Schindler will be taking over Wine Tasting in the next few weeks. If you are interested in participating, send an email to her at winegroupchair@lexvanewcomers.org and put Wine in the subject line.



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

