

Greater Lexington Newcomers

EDITOR: MARGARET SKOVIRA - newsletter@lexvanewcomers.org 348-1093

WEB SITE: <http://www.lexvanewcomers.org>

MEETINGS ARE HELD THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE VIRGINIA HORSE CENTER ON ROUTE 39 (2ND LEVEL).

CLUB ACTIVITIES 2006

April

5: General Meeting at the Horse Center, Lexington, 10:00 AM.

6: Bus trip to Washington DC, including optional city tour and new American Indian Museum tour.

11: New Members' Coffee. A "Dessert and Coffee" for new members will be held on Tuesday evening, April 11, at 7:30pm. Carole Elmore will be hosting this event for us. Her address is 20 Wild Turkey Road in the Birdfield subdivision, just south of Lexington. From south Main in Lexington (opposite the Rt. 11 by-pass) take Rt. 251 (Collierstown Road); continue about a mile and turn left into Birdfield. Once in the subdivision, take the second right onto Wild Turkey. Carole's is the second house on the right. If you are a new member and have not been contacted and would like to attend, please call Cathy Broach 261-3141 or Karen Hyde (434)-922-7702 by April 8. Please come and socialize with others new to the group and a few veterans. We look forward to seeing you there.

26: Safari Park Expedition 1:30 PM. Feed the animals as you ride through the park on a wagon. \$12 per person payable by April 8. We need a minimum of 15 people and must pay a \$50 deposit 2 weeks in advance. Contact John Sappington, (540) 348-6339, johnsappington@earthlink.net with questions. Send your checks, made out to him, to 251 Brownsburg Turnpike, Rockbridge Baths, VA 24473.

May

3: General Meeting at the Horse Center, Lexington, 10:00 AM. Cinco de Mayo lunch at Don Tequila's (optional).

19: Sherando Lake picnic & hiking sponsored by the hiking group. For more information contact Lucy Thornburgh at 434-922-7544.

Calendar

(See Interest Groups/Activities for specifics)

April

- 5 General Meeting
- 6 Bus trip to Washington DC
- 7 Hiking
- 11 Bridge #2
- 11 New Members' Coffee
- 12 Sewing
- 17 Book Club #2
- 20 Scrabble #1
- 21 Hiking
- 25 Canasta
- 26 Safari Park Expedition
- 26 Couples Bridge #2
- 27 Book Club #3
- 28 Hiking

May

- 3 General Meeting
- 15 Book Club #2
- 19 Hiking with picnic
- 23 Canasta
- 25 Book Club #3
- 31 Scrabble #3

Help Needed!

Volunteer for the July Picnic Committee!
Call or email Sandy Harrelson, 261-1141, fharrelson@earthlink.net.

HIGHLIGHTS

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INTEREST GROUPS

Interest group participants must be members of Newcomers. To join an interest group, call the contact. (Area code 540 unless otherwise stated.)

Baseball Club

Contact: Jerry Plante, (463-4032). Activities resume in the spring.

Book Clubs

Book Club #2 - Norma Combs (463-2745) - filled
(nacombs@ntelos.net)

3rd Monday of the month at 1:30 PM
4/17 at Pam Wagner's to discuss *The Sparrow* by Mary Doria Russell
5/15 at Carole Elmore's to discuss *Teacher Man: A Memoir* by Frank McCourt

Book Club #3 - Evelyn Caldwell (464-5571) - open
(ebcaldwell@earthlink.net)

4th Thursday of the month at 1 PM
4/27 at Suzanne King's to discuss *Haunted Ground* by Erin Hart.
5/25 at Anita Ramp's to discuss *Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

Bridge

Bridge #1 - Faye Welch (463-5320) - call to substitute
2nd Thursday of the month at 1 PM

Bridge #2 - Marlies Aldridge (464-3080)
At Lexington Golf and Country Club, 2nd Tuesday -
12 Noon lunch; 1 PM game. Seeking new members for friendly games.

Couples Bridge #2 - Cathy Broach (261-3141)
call to substitute
4/26, 7 PM at Karen Hyde's

Canasta

Contact: Shirley Dent (348-1048). Call to join or substitute.
Meets 12 Noon, 4th Tuesday of every month
4/25 at Carol Greenan's
5/23 at Judy Dunning's

Dining Out

Contact: Frank Harrelson (261-1141),
fharrelson@earthlink.net
Dining Out had eight very successful dining groups in March! It would be hard to say which group had the best time. I have heard very favorable comments from people in all the groups. A special thank-you goes to all the persons who helped by sharing hostess and hosting duties. It just wouldn't work without you! The next dining out will be in June. It is a great way to become reacquainted with persons you already know, and to meet some newcomers who you don't know at all, or perhaps don't know well. In March, we had persons who had so much fun that they went out with two groups.

Fine Dining Group

Contact Linda or Bob Textor (348-1919),
thetextors@direcway.com, or refer to the website - <http://www.lexvanewcomers.org/finedining.html>.

The April/May dining groups are being organized now. This will be the final dining in event for this club year. All members should have received an email/ mailing regarding their current assignments. You should have also received at least an initial contact from your host/hostess by now. If you have not, please call us to let us know. Otherwise, *bon appetit* and thanks for helping to make this special interest group a success.

Hiking Club

Contact: Lucy Thornburgh (434-922-7544),
bthorn@mindspring.com. Call to receive detailed notices.
Fridays at 10 AM: 4/7, Laurel Run; 4/14 no hike; 4/21, A Wildflower hike somewhere; 4/28, Matts Creek. **May 19, A special day at Sherando Lake, Picnic and Hiking for everyone in Newcomers.** If you are interested in joining the group and are not on the email list just give Lucy a call.

Scrabble

Please call Sarah Pierce (261-2108) if you would like to start a new group or be on our substitute list.

Group #1 - Sarah Pierce (261-2108), 3rd Thursday at 1 PM
4/20 at Barbara Anderson's.

Group #3 - Frank Harrelson (261-1141), call to join or substitute; usually 4th Wednesday at 1 PM, mixed gender
no play in April
5/31 (5th Thursday) at Margaret Skovira's

Men's Scrabble - Men are still being sought for either afternoon or evening scrabble. If interested, you may contact Frank Harrelson at (261-1141) or email at fharrelson@earthlink.net. Hey Guys, come on out and enjoy good conversation and good drink, and enjoy some mentally challenging scrabble games!

Sewing

Contact: Kathy Gander (377-9556), kakkinanni@aol.com
2nd Wednesday, 10 AM.
3/12 at Ruth Dick's

Wine Tasting Group

Contact George Grasse (463-4267), gandg@hughes.net
See March results on page 4. For the month of May, we will taste European-style Rosé wines. The following hosts have volunteered but additional hosts are needed: Dunlap, Gorlin, Grasse, Textor, Vosburgh. Submit your name as soon as possible. Wine club information at www.histomin.com/wineclub/pgindex.htm (site temporarily down for upgrade)

GENERAL MEETING - APRIL 5, 2006

The April General Meeting of the Greater Lexington Newcomers Club was called to order at the Virginia Horse Center at 10:30 AM on April 5, 2006 by **President Sandy Harrelson**. After the pledge of allegiance **Vice President Glenda Grasse** announced that 32 members and 2 guests were present. The guests were Margaret T. Whittington who recently moved here from Clifton Forge and Elaine Nelson who has returned to the area from North Carolina. **Secretary Nancy Mills** announced the cards that had been sent since the last meeting (see page 4). Sandy presented the financial report in the absence of **Treasurer Ellen Charske** who was under the weather.

Sue Ward reviewed the logistics for the bus trip to Washington DC on April 6. **Morale Gal Carol Greenan** complimented the attendees on their original hats and other headgear. Appropriately, hat maker Diana Robinson won the drawing for the prize for participants. **John Sappington** urged members to get their checks for the Safari to him by April 8. Sandy described the New Member Coffee to be held April 11 and introduced host **Carole Elmore**. **Lynn Sullivan** announced the plans for an all member hike and picnic at Sherando Lake on May 19. All these activities are described in detail on page 1.

Sandy led the members through a discussion and vote on the proposed **by-laws changes** which were published in last month's newsletter. All the proposed changes passed except the proposed change to Article 9, Section 6 removing the term limit for Standing Committee Chairs. (The result is that Standing Committee Chairs continue to be limited to two year terms as described in Section 3.) Language will be added clarifying the requirement that a proposal for a new interest group be presented in writing to the Vice President. Also, responsibilities are assigned to a Directory Committee for maintaining enrollment forms and distributing directories to members at the November meeting. After that, the Membership Committee is responsible for providing directories to members who were absent at the November meeting and to new members joining after November.

Cathy Broach and the club each received \$14 from the 50/50 drawing.

After general announcements 10 members enjoyed lunch at Bistro on Main.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 3 at the Virginia Horse Center in the room behind our normal meeting room on the mezzanine.

- Margaret Skovira

GREATER LEXINGTON NEWCOMERS CLUB		
FINANCIAL STATEMENT: SEPTEMBER 1, 2005 - MARCH 31, 2006		
Bank Balance	September 1, 2005	\$3368.45
Deposits	50/50	132.00
	Dues	3200.00
Total Deposits		\$3332.00
Expenses	DC Bus Trip	572.50
	Directory	303.60
	Gift/Memorial	50.00
	Holiday Party	255.00
	Morale Gal	21.83
	New Member Coffee	25.00
	Newsletter	44.69
	Office Supplies	152.88
	Room Rent	600.00
	Web Site	119.35
Total Expenses		\$2144.85
Bank Balance	April 1, 2006	\$4555.60
Club Membership	April 1, 2006	160

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A fine time was had by all who attended the wine tasting event at Moody Hall on the Ides of March. Many thanks to George & Glenda Grasse for planning it and making the arrangements, and thanks also to all the people who assisted the evening of the tasting. It was a great evening!

It was wonderful seeing all of you who came out for the April meeting to vote on the by-law changes — a necessary task if we are going to put in place the wishes of our members.

The annual picnic in the summer is a very popular event of our Club Year, but we need volunteers for a picnic committee to plan this event. Please call or email me.

As I write I am looking forward to our bus trip to Washington, DC. Hopefully, the cherry blossoms are going to be in full bloom. Kudos to Sue Ward & Lyn Bing for their hard work in organizing and planning this trip for us.

I do hope to see you at the May meeting when nominations for officers and committee chairs will be presented for your consideration.

- Sandy Harrelson

DIRECTORY

Please make these **email changes** your 2005-2006

Directory:

Bob & Debbie Carsillo dcarsi2964@aol.com
Dorothy Coker whoozie@hughes.net
Tom Coker peppy@hughes.net
Suzanne & Joseph Egyed jos@rockbridge.net
George & Glenda Grasse gandg@hughes.net
Dick & Jean Rathmell Rathmell@ntelos.net

CARDS

Cards sent since last Newcomers Meeting:

Sue Ward: Thinking of You, husband's death
Karen Hyde: Thinking of You, husband's death
Jean Rathmell: Thinking of You, illness

Please notify Nancy Mills, nancym@rockbridge.net or secretary@lexvanewcomers.org, if you know of a member who could be cheered or consoled with a card from the club.

MARCH WINE TASTING

The Wine Tasting Group held a grand wine tasting March 15 at VMI's Moody Hall where 95 tasters seated at twelve tables enjoyed Spanish red wines. Consensus of the attendees was that *Mas Donis Monstant* and *Los Rochas Garnacha* tied for first place. Glenda and I would like to thank the coordinators: Cathy & Bill Broach (greeters), Denise & Ken Gorsky (table assignment), Sandy & Frank Harrelson (name tags), Kate & Ted Jenks (reception management), and Nancy & Mike Mills (registration). We would also like to thank the following table hosts: Belden, Boller, Combs, Bushnell/Murphy, Jones, McKenna, Perkins, Plante, Rollenhagen, Schmoll, Textor, and Welch/B&F. Accounting data follows: total receipts were \$2,751.00; total expenses were \$2,655.53; this leaves a surplus of \$95.47 of which \$54.00 was refunded to the Buckners (guests of the Jenks who could not attend). Net surplus is \$41.47 and this will be applied to the May wine costs.

- George Grasse

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please sign up for the **summer (July) picnic committee** by calling Sandy Harrelson, 261-1141, or email fharrelson@earthlink.net.



Officers/Committees

President: Sandy Harrelson 261-1141
Vice President: Glenda Grasse 463-4267
C. Secretary: Nancy Mills 463-5562
Treasurer: Ellen Charske 463-7971
Activities: Mary Brooks, Chair 463-6643
Directory: Sally Claeys 463-6322
Historian: Dottie Lion 291-3514
New Member Coffee: Linda Donald 463-2947
Cathy Broach 261-3141
Newsletter: Margaret Skovira 348-1093
Publicity: Pat Rafferty 348-4222
Web Site: Dorothy Coker 348-6248
Welcome: Jane Auciello 377-5332
Immediate Past President: Ann Jones 464-8906