

# Greater Lexington Newcomers

EDITOR: Connie Schmoll – [rcschmoll@comcast.net](mailto:rcschmoll@comcast.net) • April 2010

WEB SITE: Dorothy Coker [www.lexvanewcomers.org](http://www.lexvanewcomers.org)

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Happy Spring to All,

Many Newcomer members resisted the urge to be outside taking in the glorious Spring day and instead came to the country club for our April meeting (an excellent alternative!). We not only had a good turnout but also added four new members to our ranks--or was it six? I should have checked with Jim Slack, our membership chair, who for two years has done a great job keeping track of such things and who also happily accepts membership dues. And speaking of Jim... he will be stepping aside at the end of this year and so, of course, we're looking for someone to take over this job. Jim says it's an undemanding position and a great way to participate in the workings of the club. If you think that you'd like to help us out, please email or call me or any of the other officers.

If you haven't received your Newcomer's directory for 2009-2010, you can pick one up at our May meeting. It's such a convenient way to keep track of new and old friends' telephone numbers or email/mailling addresses. Thanks again to Allan and Debbie Maurer for putting it together.

One other bit of news is that Doris Graywall is in the beginning stages of planning the Newcomers' summer picnic on July 11 at Maury Park. It's always a great time with delicious food and is very well-attended. More details will be coming as things develop, so keep that date in mind as your calendar starts to fill.

Thanks also to Gary Sullivan who has kindly put together this newsletter while our editor, Connie Schmoll, is in New York attending to family matters

Kathy Kvach.

## THE NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY (NARO) Green Bank, West Virginia

Quasars – Pulsar – Gravitation Wave Detectors – Neutron stars – just a few scientific terms that you will be hearing and learning about on **April 15** as the Activity Committee sponsors a trip to the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. NARO is a national facility devoted to radio astronomy, and home of the world's largest fully steerable radio telescope (but no, you will not be able to steer it or take a ride on it.



Nestled in West Virginia Mountains, this technological marvel rises to a height of 485 feet and weighs 17 million pounds. Astronomers around the world use the Green Bank Telescope (GBT) to investigate the cosmos. Our trip includes the special behind-the-scenes High Tech laboratory tour which gives us an opportunity to observe the scientists who are searching for the secrets of the Universe, at least those delivered via electro-magnetic energy.

We will be leaving at **09:45 AM sharp** from the Food Lion parking lot and should arrive at our destination at 12:00, thus

permitting an hour or so for lunch or exploration before our tours. The general motor coach tour (\$2.00 fee) will begin at 1:00 and will last an hour. From 2:00 to 3:30, you may check out the Galaxy Gift shop or learn more about the universe in the well-designed Hands-On Exhibit Hall, a collection of interactive exhibits which will definitely pique your curiosity and add to your understanding of the underlying science associated with deep space electro-magnetic analysis and the big bang theory. At 3:45 the High Tech laboratory tour begins and should last around 40 minutes. Arrival home is planned for approximately 6:30 PM.

Since this is a long day, you and your car pool associates could easily skip the High Tech Tour and leave when you have experienced enough science and deep space lore from the earlier tour and exhibit hall.

If you have any questions, and to sign up, please contact either Bill Docekal 261-3421 or Mike Quarles 463-5290. Hope you can make this remarkable scientific adventure.

### Calendar

See *Activities* or *Interest Groups* for details.

#### April

15 National Radio Astronomy Observatory  
19 Third Monday Book Club  
20 Couples Bridge #2  
22 Fourth Thursday Book Club  
27 Canasta

#### May

17 Third Monday Book Club  
25 Canasta

**Club Officers**

*President*  
Kathy Kvach

*Vice President*  
Terrie Scholl

*Corresponding Secretary*  
Jane Auciello

*Treasurer*  
Rosemary Cecil

**Committee Chairs**

*Activities*  
Mary and Mike Quarles

*Directory*  
Debbie and Alan Maurer

*Historian*  
Carole Elmore

*Hospitality*  
Elaine Nelson

*Membership*  
Jim Slack

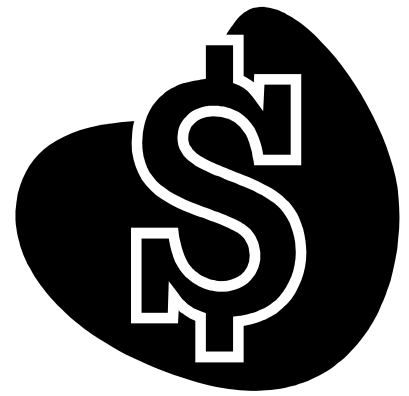
*Nametags*  
Shelley Undercoffer

*Newsletter*  
Connie Schmoll

*Publicity*  
Fred Massey

*Web Site*  
Dorothy Coker

*Welcome*  
Nancy Vallance



**Treasurer's Report  
9/1/2009 through 4/1/2010**

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>		<b>\$2,020.61</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Dues (122)	\$2720.00	
Holiday Party Reservations	\$2,520.00	
Oktoberfest Reservations	\$2,245.00	
Picnic Reservations	\$0.00	
<b>TOTAL Income</b>		<b>9,505.61</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Directory	\$260.42	
Gifts & Memorials	\$25.00	
Holiday Party 2009	\$3,327.96	
Holiday Party 2010	\$375.00	
Newsletter	\$41.84	
Office Supplies	\$16.57	
Oktoberfest Expenses	\$2,346.37	
Rent	\$300.00	
Special Events Picnic		
Web – Tiger Tech	\$75.00	
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>		<b>\$6,768.16</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>		<b>\$2,737.45</b>



**Thinking of You**

Members are requested to please keep Jane Auciello, our corresponding secretary, informed of any member to whom a card should be sent.

Jane can be reached by email at [hnojauciel@gmail.com](mailto:hnojauciel@gmail.com) or 460-0585

**Membership**

We now have 140 memberships consisting of 247 members.

Three memberships joined at the April meeting:

Ross Christian  
15 Canter Lane,  
Lexington, VA, 24450,  
461-2127

Carolyn & John Rapoza  
90 Carolyn Way,  
Lexington, VA, 24450,  
463-6998

Marnie & Harry Wheeler  
12 Meadow Heights Lane  
Lexington, VA, 24450  
261-1947

Rosemary Cecil

## Interest Groups

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



### Fine Dining Group

Our membership continues to grow and we encourage any of you in the club who have a bent for cooking (it doesn't have to be gourmet) to join us for the spring session.

Sign up at a regular meeting on e-mail Ron Patrick at [nbpatrick@embarqmail.com](mailto:nbpatrick@embarqmail.com). Bon appétit.



### Fourth Thursday Book Club

Meets at 1:00 p. m., and is filled for now.  
Evelyn Caldwell: 463-9775  
([ebcaldwell@embarqmail.com](mailto:ebcaldwell@embarqmail.com))

### Fourth Thursday Book Club B

Any questions call Doris at 540-463-7998.

### Third Monday Book Club

Joan Carson, 463-6994 or 460-3754 [jcarson0149@yahoo.com](mailto:jcarson0149@yahoo.com)  
Meets 1:30 and is filled for now.

March 15th hostess and facilitator was Pat Rafferty. We had a lively and fun discussion of the book, *The Elegance of the Hedgehog!*

April 19<sup>th</sup> Hostess: Sally Emory, Facilitator: Karen Hyde  
Book: *People of the Book*.

May 17<sup>th</sup> Hostess: Ellen Charske, Facilitator: Joan Carson  
Book: *Julie & Julia*



### Couples Bridge #2

Cathy Broach (261-3141)  
3rd Wednesday of the month @ 7:00 PM  
- Substitutes welcome.  
April 21 - Fran & Jim Naylor's



### Canasta

Margaret Skovira 348-1093 or  
[mkskovira@embarqmail.com](mailto:mkskovira@embarqmail.com)  
April 27 at Shirley Dent's  
May 25 at Sandy Harrelson's  
June 22 at Margaret Skovira's



### Scrabble Group #3

We welcome new players and persons who can substitute. If you are interested, please contact Frank Harrelson, 261-1141, or email at [fharrelson@embarqmail.com](mailto:fharrelson@embarqmail.com).



### Dining Out

There are few places left for some of the 6 selective April restaurant venues For more info, please call: Susan & Ed Bauer @463-2018 or [eddiebauer@comcast.net](mailto:eddiebauer@comcast.net)



### Wine Tasting Group

Our spring wine tasting will be French whites. Jerry Plante and Lester have picked 6 intriguing wines for us to try. If you have not hosted in a year please consider hosting. The parties will take place during April.

As always, please contact Kate Jenks at [katejenks@comcast.net](mailto:katejenks@comcast.net) or 463-4722 with all your comments and suggestions



### Hiking Group

We hike every Friday. Many hikes are on the AT and most are about 4 miles long. For information on the hikes contact Lucy Thornburgh at [bthorn@mindspring.com](mailto:bthorn@mindspring.com)



April 2 Hiking the Appalachian Trail to Speer's Pond.

### Photography

Credits for photos in this month's Newsletter:

Page 1, *The Green Bank Telescope (GBT)*,  
Submitted by Lynne Sullivan

Page 3, *Hiking the Appalachian Trail to Speer's Pond*,  
Submitted by Cynthia Tucker

Many thanks to Lynne and Cynthia. If you have photos of activities or events please send them in. Our readers would much rather your photos than clipart.