

NEWCOMERS' CLUB

Serving the Greater Columbia Area -- www.newcomersofgreatercolumbia.com



December 2019

The goal of this organization shall be to extend to newcomers of Greater Columbia assistance in beginning a social life in a new community, and promoting interest in Greater Columbia and its civic and cultural affairs.

PRESIDENTS' CORNER

From its beginning to end, 2019 has proved a busy year for the Newcomers' Club of Greater Columbia. The year started with a membership in the mid-130s and is now **154** by our last count.

In any given month, **Newcomers offers up to 18 activities for members**. All are social occasions, but some are also competitive, like Dominoes and card games including Bridge, Hand & Foot and the recently introduced Hand, Knee & Foot. Another game offered is Mah Jongg, which is played with tiles. Each group is willing to teach interested members to play. The card and tile groups meet from two-three times per month. Other activities offer intellectual and learning experiences, including a Book Club, Lunch and Learn, and our exploring group, Out and About. If you long for walking companions, then connect with Take a Hike.

Purely social events range from our monthly events like our Coffee, better described as a brunch, and the General Meeting/Luncheon. Other social occasions include Happy Hour and dinners events with Ladies Night Out and Couples Night Out.

We partied this past April at the Brazilian Tropical Beach Cocktail spring social. On December 6th, we will celebrate the holidays at the **"A Starry Night and Pearls" gala**. **The extended deadline for reservations is November 21**. If you missed the original deadline, send your reservation in this week.

Our **December Coffee**, December 3rd, is also a **holiday celebration** and includes the **new officer installation**. Come January, we may hear of new ideas to liven up our Newcomer social lives in 2020.

Some 2019 highlights include:

- **Record attendance numbers at luncheons** to hear speakers on subjects like the Beloved Children of the Holocaust, body language and handwriting analysis, and Lake Murray history, to name a few
- **The Columbia Museum of Art docent led tour of the Van Gogh exhibit and luncheon at Cowboys**, co-sponsored by Lunch and Learn and Out and About

So now, with the end of 2019 drawing near, Carol and I sincerely want to say, "Thank You" to the Board and club members, Standing Committee and Interest Group chairs for the great support we've received this year. We have loved working with each of you; you shared your wisdom and held us up when we needed your strength. We count ourselves very lucky to have made so many new friends in 2019 and deeply treasure all our Newcomers' Club of Greater Columbia friendships. It's time to pass the gavel! Happy holidays, everyone!

Carol & Peggy
2019 Co-Presidents
Newcomers' Club of Greater Columbia

