

# Nevada County Newcomers Club

October 2020

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## President's Message

As of September 18, it was stated that the county is on track to move from the COVID 'substantial' (purple) risk tier to 'moderate' (orange), and I believe that when you read this October Newsletter change will already be in place. I am not sure what this will mean as far as our luncheon meetings at the Alta Sierra Country Club, but I am hopeful that it will be possible to get together for our Holiday luncheon. Should Alta Sierra be able to accommodate us in December, it may still be necessary for them to restrict the number of attendees.

During the time of the COVID-19 pandemic we have also had fires creating hazardous breathing conditions, protocols, home schooling, economic problems, and so much more. Everyone has been impacted in some way or another. Coping with these disruptions in our lives has not been easy, but I am hoping that you have all stayed safe and well.

Many of us are missing the normal contact with family and friends but, hopefully, many of you are able to safely get together with your activity groups. Personally, I have enjoyed meeting with my gourmet cooking group and my book club.

I am happy to report that, although we are not able to hold our October Live and Silent auctions, which bring in the majority of the funds to support our Christmas Families Project, we are still planning on continuing this important project, as it provides a wonderful Christmas to so many deserving children. You can read more about it in Stacey Nicolai's report in this newsletter.

Please take care, and hopefully we will soon return to life as we knew it.

*Patricia Graves, President  
newcomersnc@gmail.com*

## Fashion Show Update

Although the 2020 Fashion Show has been cancelled twice, we hope to again treat our members to a fabulous show of fashion in April 2021.

At this time there are many unknowns. We do know that Marilyn's of Auburn has closed its doors permanently. We will miss this wonderful "local" store but can appreciate that Marilyn felt it was time to retire. The owners of our other participating stores, Beautiful *boutique* and La Te Da of Grass Valley and Whim *be beautiful!* of Penn Valley, are all trying to adapt and move forward with the new shopping restrictions. Now, more than ever, they need our support. I hope we all think of them first in updating our fashion looks for the fall.

Antonio is on board for catering, and Alta Sierra is still an unknown as far as seating a large group. We will continue to hope that many issues can be resolved so that we are able to bring you a spring fashion show. If and when possible, we will do it!

## Upcoming Program

*Although still tentative, our next scheduled program is the Holiday Luncheon.*

**December 2, 2020** – InConcert Sierra Quartet

The quartet, with Ken Getz and three companions, will get us in the spirit of the season with special Holiday music.

Before the group entertains us, the Christmas Families Project will present current and former recipients who will share what the program has meant to them. Every year we hear heartwarming stories from women who have struggled through difficult times and how Newcomers reached out and provided their child/children with a special Christmas.

## Christmas Families Project Report

Even with so much uncertainty right now, one thing that you can count on is that our Christmas Families Project will take place this year. The kids need us now more than ever! There will be some changes, but for the most part you will be familiar with it.

Right now, we need to know who wants to shop and who wants to wrap. There may even be an opportunity for you to shop and wrap your gifts at home. Some of you have done that in past years, and we are very grateful. We know that some of you would love to shop but might not be comfortable showing up at a designated place to wrap your gifts. If so, wrapping your own may be an option. That will be determined later.

If you are interested in shopping, please contact Kathe Pinto ([newcomersnc@gmail.com](mailto:newcomersnc@gmail.com)). If you would like to volunteer for wrapping, please contact Carol Riddle ([newcomersnc@gmail.com](mailto:newcomersnc@gmail.com)). If you want to shop **and** wrap your own gifts, please let Kathe Pinto know, and we will figure it out from there. **Please reply by October 20.** Once we have our lists completed, we will give you all the information you need.

If you have any questions, you can contact either Ronda Jensen or Stacey Nicolai ([newcomersnc@gmail.com](mailto:newcomersnc@gmail.com)).

## Activities

Based on current responses from Activity chairs, many groups have been able to meet via Zoom or in person with social distancing. Unfortunately, this was not the case for most gaming or cooking groups. Hopefully, they have found other ways to stay connected.

**Please note:** Flyers for each group will be available at the monthly luncheons once they resume. These provide more detailed information about the groups including when they meet and all contact information.

If you have any questions, ideas or are interested in forming a new group, please contact Linda Mitchelmore.

## Bridge Update

For Newcomers who are interested in learning to play bridge, joining a group, or playing online group or individual bridge, please read on.

Kathy Boone maintains a roster of current Newcomers bridge groups and substitutes.

Rosalie Baker ([newcomersnc@gmail.com](mailto:newcomersnc@gmail.com)) can assist in referring to online bridge lessons and online bridge play. She can also walk you through joining [bridgebase.com](http://bridgebase.com).

New Players – If you are new to bridge or converting from party to duplicate bridge, free tutorials are available online through [bridgebase.com](http://bridgebase.com) and ACBL Bridge. Nancy Eubanks offers individual lessons at her home by appointment. Cost is based on individual or number of students. Bridge is a game that takes time to learn and level of play varies.

Newcomers Club Bridge Groups – These groups play online or in person (although in-person play at home or location is mostly on hold because of COVID). If you know how to play bridge and know at least some conventions, the best way to join is to start as a substitute. Depending on the level of bridge experience, Kathy or Rosalie can suggest a group. The group will determine if your level of play is a good fit. Members new to bridge may want to form their own group. If you want to start playing online for practice, call Rosalie and she can help get you started.

Online Bridge ([bridgebase.com](http://bridgebase.com)) – Anyone can play online – individuals, those participating in an ACBL game, or those setting up a table to play with friends. For help in playing online bridge, contact Rosalie who will walk you through the registration and how to play online. Just playing online is free. The cost for competitive play varies by game (typically \$3).

## Sunshine

Our new Newcomers year has started, under different circumstances! Please let me know if you know of anyone needing some support, comfort, or encouragement from our club–Shirley Souza ([newcomersnc@gmail.com](mailto:newcomersnc@gmail.com)).

## Membership

**Membership Question, E-Mail Changes:** If you know someone interested in joining Newcomers, please contact our Membership chair, Loretta Miller ([newcomersnc@gmail.com](mailto:newcomersnc@gmail.com)) or to our website, [NewcomersNC.org](http://NewcomersNC.org), where she can find and print a Membership application.

## Welcome to our New Members

Lisa Barnes  
Sandra K. Spargo  
Judie St. John

## In Memoriam

I am sorry to share the passing of long-time member, Carol Knarr. Her family is in our thoughts and prayers.