November 2026, Issue 153 *Newcomersmontgomery@gmail.com*

Newcomers Club of Montgomery

President's Message

"Gratitude turns what we have into enough."
~ Melody Beattie ~

As we approach Thanksgiving Day, I want to express my deepest appreciation for the unique spirit each of you brings to our club. Together we have created a beautiful community of support, laughter, and lifelong memories. Thank you for being a part of this journey with Newcomers Club of Montgomery!

As you gather around your tables this Thanksgiving, I send you my warmest wishes for a peaceful, joyful, and delicious holiday!

I look forward to learning along with you all about the Quilter's Guild at our November luncheon. A representative from the local Quilter's Guild will be joining us and giving us insight into the beautiful world of quilting. I love the quilts my Pennsylvania grandmother made for me to keep warm in the winter season. I know quilts have a special place in the hearts of many of you! Please join us for this special day, Thursday, November 19th, a week earlier than usual!

Always grateful,
Diane Widmer
President, 2026-2027

Please Note: Our Christmas Charity Drive will be providing the Family Sunshine Center with items for women and children. Please see the details on one of the following pages of this newsletter.

Executive Board 2026-2027

PRESIDENT:
Diane Widmer, newcomersmontgomery@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT - PROGRAMS:
Mary Taylor-Perry

VICE PRESIDENT - MEMBERSHIP:
Sandy Buchanan

VICE PRESIDENT - SOCIAL:
Judith Provencher

SECRETARY:
Janie Kennett

TREASURER:
Pam Stephan

PARLIAMENTARIAN:
Kate Wanschek

CHAPLAIN:
Janine Koslofsky

Connections and Contact Information

Facebook: See the latest photos from our luncheons, club activities, and social events. Search for "Newcomers of Montgomery Inc." and click "LIKE" to follow our page and stay up to date!

Web Site: www.newcomersofmontgomery.com

Email: newcomersmontgomery@gmail.com

Address: Newcomers of Montgomery | P.O. Box 241946| Montgomery, AL 36124-1946

** If you have any "Friendship News" that you wish included in the *December* newsletter, please send the information to the Club President or Secretary by November 5th. If the information is about another member, please get their permission to share first.

NOVEMBER NEWCOMERS LUNCHEON:

~ Thursday, November 19th ~

Luncheon Details:

Where: Arrowhead Country Club, 50 Ocala Drive, Montgomery

When: Thursday, November 19, 2026

Time: 11:30 am - Social Time / 12:00 noon - Meeting Begins

Cost: $27.00

Important: If you RSVP that you will attend or you are on the standing reservations list, and you **do not CANCEL by NOON on Monday, November 16th, then YOU are responsible for the $27.00 luncheon fee if you do not show.**

To make reservations or to cancel a standing reservation – contact Membership VP Sandy Buchanan, 757-718-1577, sndbuchanan@gmail.com, by noon on Monday, November 16th.

Program:

Modern Quilt Guild



I love Autumn in Montgomery, don't you? The cooler temperatures are always a welcome reprieve after such a hot summer, but I also get excited about the upcoming holidays! I love it even more when there's a chilly nip in the air and the need for warmer clothing and a fire in the fireplace in the library (my favorite room) beckons a reason to curl up with a good book! Nestling under a cozy lap quilt with a cup of tea will be the day's order too. There will be larger versions of this little quilt, some with crazy, random pieces and others with patterns like "Little Dutch Girl" and "Log Cabin" on our bed and in each guest room.

And so ladies, it is the perfect time to introduce Sally Hurlbert of the Alabama River Region Modern Quilt Guild. Some of their quilts will be on display at our November luncheon. We also have some wonderful quilters among us and I ask you to bring one or more of your own quilts to display and show us your handiwork!

See you there!



November



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	**2** **Mah-jongg** 10:00 am	**3** **MOW** **Meal Makers** 7:30-9:30 am	4	**5** **Lunch Bunch** 11:30 am	**6** **T.G.I.F.** 6:30 pm	**7**
8	**9** **Arts & Crafts Club** 10:00 am	**10** **Book Club** 10:00 am	**11** 	**12** **Cooking Club** 11:30 am	**13** **Arts Alive!** Dixie Art Colony Exhibit & Lunch 10:00 am	**14**
15	**16** **Noon deadline** to make/cancel luncheon reservations.	**17** **MOW** **Meal Makers** 7:30-9:30 am	**18** **Soil Sisters** 10:00 am	**19** **Luncheon** Arrowhead CC 11:30 am	**20** **Contract Rummy** 10:00 am	**21**
22	**23** **Bunco** 1:00-3:00 pm	**24**	**25**	**26** 	**27**	**28**
29	**30**					



A Community of Friends



Happy November Birthdays



01 … Priscila Jaffri
01 … Barbara Ness
01 … Camille Ross
01 … Diane Widmer
07 … Susan Beacham
09 … Sandy Buchanan
12 … Carol Shaw
15 … Janine Koslofsky
22 … Lisa Holcombe
26 … Irene Wetzel

Friendship News



Our sweet friend **Marlene Harrington's** Celebration of Life will take place on Friday, November 6th, 2:00 pm, at Alabama Heritage Funeral Home, 10505 Atlanta Highway, 36117. Her obituary can be located under Spring Grove Obituaries.

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Janet Beard's new address: Riverchase Senior Living | 1851 Data Drive | Hoover, AL, 35244

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Janie Kennett would like to thank our anonymous door prize donor, one of our "prized" members, for her monthly contributions!

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Please let the Club President or Secretary know of any Friendship News as soon as possible.
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Activity Clubs

For additional information on an Activity Club, contact the chair(s).
Check the announcements, calendar, and Facebook for monthly information.



ARTS ALIVE!:

Jeanne Sellers - jsellersmgm@outlook.com and Ginny Anderson - tiger4268@gmail.com. Arts Alive! invites you to experience live concerts, captivating plays, and immersive visual art exhibitions! With both day and evening activities, this monthly club offers a variety of cultural arts experiences here in the River Region and beyond.

ARTS & CRAFTS:

Sandy Buchanan – 757-718-1557/ sndbuchanan@gmail.com and Robin Agnoli *(New Co-Chair!)* – 410-294-0867 / rjagnoli@gmail.com - Come and make a craft (payment up front). Sign-up sheet at luncheons. We meet the 2nd Monday of each month from 10:00 am-12:00 noon.
Location: Pike Road Library, 9585 Vaughn Rd., Pike Road, AL 36064.





BOOK CLUB:

Rona Reder – 334-318-1883 / ronareder@hotmail.com. A lively discussion of the book selection of the month is held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, at 10:00 am, at member's homes.

BUNCO:

Sandy Buchanan – 757-718-1557/ sndbuchanan@gmail.com. Join us the 4th Monday* of each month, from 1:00-3:00 pm, for a fun game. The cost is $5 per person. We are currently meeting at Venue 901 at 901 South Hull Street, Montgomery. **Please RSVP** to Sandy by the Friday prior to Monday's game.





COOKING CLUB:

Cindy Russell – 603-490-5490 / crrussell2006@yahoo.com. Come enjoy a fun time with our club on the 2nd Thursday of each month. We meet at 11:30 am at members' homes, with a different theme each month.

CONTRACT RUMMY:

Sandy Buchanan – 757-718-1577 / sndbuchanan@gmail.com. Meets on the 3rd Friday of each month at Sandy's home at 1203 South Perry Street, Montgomery from 10:00am-1:00 pm. Sandy will provide dessert and drinks. Bring a sandwich if you're hungry. **NOTE:** There are currently no openings for players. Contact Sandy if you want to add your name to a substitutes list.



Activity Clubs, continued …





EXPLORER'S CLUB:

Carol Jean Jernigan – 773-339-1921 / firstbornmj1979@gmail.com.
Discover must-see destinations in Montgomery and beyond! Whether visiting a museum, enjoying a river cruise, or checking out a local winery, each quarter, you'll have an opportunity to explore. Sign up at luncheons or contact Carol.

LUNCH BUNCH:



Irene Wetzel – 661-972-1334 / ijwetzel@msn.com.
Come and meet other Newcomers as we enjoy lunch together at various area restaurants. We meet the 1st Thursday of each month at 11:30 am. RSVP is required by noon on the Tuesday prior.



MAH-JONGG:

Robin Agnoli – 410-294-0867 / ragnoli@gmail.com. Join us on the 1st Monday of each month, at 11:00 a.m. Location: Woodland Creek Clubhouse, 8800 Crescent Lodge Drive, Pike Road.

MOVIE MAVENS:



Robin Kehler *(New Chair!)* – 334-797-1596 / meece.kehler@gmail.com. Often on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, the days and times may be different depending on the movie offerings that month. We usually meet for dinner afterwards. Watch your email or contact Robin.



SOIL SISTERS:

Chela Kaplan – 334-718-7539 / chelakaplan@gmail.com and
Helene Bilyk – 609-376-1811 / hbilyk50@me.com.
For those who love plants, outdoor projects, or swapping gardening tips. We meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 10:00-11:30 am at member's homes. We'll discuss goals, gardens, successes, and failures. Wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes.

TGIF:



Janet Williamson – 334-235-9418 / pauljan48@gmail.com. Join us for TGIF (Thank God, It's Friday) the first Friday each month at 6:30 pm. Spouses are welcome. Bring a dish to share. BYOB. Hostess provides non-alcoholic drinks, plates, etc. Please RSVP to hostess the Monday prior.



November Happenings in the Activity Clubs

Arts Alive!: **Friday, November 13th, 10:00 am**

In observance of Veterans' Day week, the Figh-Pickett House (512 South Court Street) will open its doors *exclusively* to Newcomers members and their guests to view the exhibit entitled **Montgomery, Alabama: Military Aviation, 1819-2026**. The exhibit, presented jointly by the Dixie Art Colony (DAC) and the Montgomery County Historical Society, is part art exhibit and part lecture presentation that encompasses military history and Montgomery history. This public exhibition, with educational programming, unites visual art, archival images, and historical objects to explore Montgomery's rich military history during World War I and World War II.

Following our visit to the Figh-Pickett House, we'll have lunch at the Commerce Café, located on the first floor of the Alabama Center for Commerce building (401 Adams Avenue). The Commerce Café features a hot bar, salad bar, and grill. You can find the daily specials on the Commerce Café's Facebook page.

Be sure to sign up for the Dixie Art Colony exhibit and Commerce Café lunch at the October 22nd Newcomers Luncheon.

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Arts & Crafts Club: **Monday, November 9th, 10:00 am**



Craft: Fall Gnome

Location: Pike Road Library

Limit of 10 people

Contact Chair, Sandy Buchanan, to sign up.

Phone: 757-718-1577 or email: sndbuchanan@gmail.com.

You may also sign up and pay at the October 22nd luncheon.

Cost: $10, payable in advance. Checks payable to Sandy Buchanan.

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Book Club: **Tuesday, November 10th, 10:00 am**

Book: The Magnificent Life of Marjorie Post by Allison Pataki

Host: Cheryl Hiett

Address: 8403 Haymarket Street, Montgomery, 36116

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Bunco: **Monday, November 23rd, 1:00-3:00 pm**

Location: Venue 901, 901 South Hull Street, Montgomery

RSVP to Sandy Buchanan by Friday, November 20th.

Phone: 757-718-1557 | Email: sndbuchanan@gmail.com
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November Happenings, continued …



Cooking Club: Thursday, November 12th, 11:30 am

Theme: Thanksgiving Family Favorites
Home of Janie Kennett
Address: 9291 Springwood Court, Montgomery

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Soil Sisters: Wednesday, November 18th, 10:00-11:30 am

We will celebrate fall with a visit to the Old Cloverdale Community Garden at 1128 Woodward Ave. If you haven't seen this lovely neighborhood garden, you are in for a treat! Afterwards, we'll have lunch at a nearby location.

COMING EVENTS … DECEMBER

Governor's Mansion Candlelight Tour
Monday, December 14th, Time TBA

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Explorers Club to Wetumpka Downtown Dickens Christmas
Saturday, December 5th, 10:00 am-3:00 pm

CHILI COOKOFF - WINNING RECIPE
CREAM CHEESE CHICKEN CHILI by JAN BURDETTE



4 cans 12.5 oz. Chicken Breast Chunks, not drained
2 cans White Beans, drained
1 can Rotel, undrained
1 can Diced Tomatoes, undrained
1 Onion, finely chopped
1 pkg Dry Ranch Dressing Mix
1 pkg Dry McCormick's Original Chili Seasoning Mix
1 tsp. Cumin
1 - 8oz pkg Cream Cheese
4 oz Sour Cream
(Optional - 2 tbs Chili Powder and Red Chili Flakes, depending on how hot you want it!)

Directions: Except for cream cheese and sour cream, combine all other ingredients in pan. Stir together and cook on stovetop until onions are cooked through. Drop teaspoons of cream cheese randomly into mix and add sour cream. Continue cooking, stirring frequently until cheese is melted and blended.

Looking ahead to our Christmas Luncheon …

Our Christmas Charity Drive for this year will be providing the Family Sunshine Center, here in Montgomery, with ongoing needed items for women and children. If you would like to participate, please bring one of the following, unwrapped items to our Christmas luncheon.

Thank you for your generosity.

FAMILY SUNSHINE CENTER
hope & healing

The Family Sunshine Center gratefully accepts donations of goods and professional services. Please contact our Administrative Office at 334.206.2100 to make arrangements for delivery.

The Family Sunshine Center is a 501c(3) non-profit organization and your contribution is tax deductible.

The following list of NEW items are accepted and needed on an on-going basis:

- Diapers (all sizes)
- Baby Essentials: wipes/body wash/lotion
- Baby Towels
- Small Toys
- Children's Pajamas (all sizes)
- Underwear/Panties (all sizes for women and children)
- Socks (all sizes for women and children)
- Women's Pajamas/Gowns (all sizes)
- Women's Lounge Wear (all sizes)
- Coats & Gloves (all sizes for women and children)



September 24th Luncheon Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 11:58 a.m.

Jeanine Koslofsky led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our guest speaker, Mr. Peden Barber, Director of Marketing and Sales with the Alabama State Fair, was introduced.

Our new member, Marcia Freeman, was introduced.

Janine Koslofsky gave words of wisdom and blessed the meal.

Our guest speaker, Mr. Peden Barber, gave his presentation.

CLUB BUSINESS

September birthdays were announced.

Sandy Buchanan presented gifts to our octogenarian, Lynda Smitherman.

FRIENDSHIP NEWS

Please keep Marlene Harrington, Janet Beard, and Mary Anne McDowell in your thoughts and prayers for recent illnesses.
Happy news: Cindy and Bill Russell's new great grandson; Barbara and Johnny's great granddaughter; and Kate and John Wanschek's great granddaughter.

The following were presented: success of the Chili Cook Off with Jan Burdette winning the Chili Cook Off; and the Halloween Social to be held at 6:30 at Windland Creek Clubhouse on October 30th.

Lynda Smitherman made a motion to accept the August luncheon minutes. Motion passed.
Motion was made by Judith Provencher to accept the August treasurer's report. Motion passed.

A special thank you was given to Carol Brensing for our beautiful table decorations.

Door prizes were awarded. Kate Wanschek won the 50/50 raffle.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.



September 2026 Treasurer's Report

BEGINNING BALANCE	**$5,067.36**
INCOME	
Membership Dues	$25.00
Missed Luncheon	$27.00
Chili Cook Off	$120.00
September Luncheon	$999.00
50/50 Raffle	$62.00
TOTAL INCOME	**$1,233.00**
EXPENSES	
Check #3354: Arrowhead CC (Luncheon)	$1,049.58
TOTAL EXPENSES	**-$1,049.58**
ENDING BALANCE	**$5,250.78**

Welcome New Member

MARCIA FREEMAN

6525 Cypress Court | Montgomery, AL 36117
Email: marciafreeman@yahoo.com | Phone: 334-517-8427
Birthday: January 22nd

Club Directories

2026-2027 Directories are still available. If you haven't received yours, you may pick it up at the next luncheon. If you are unable to attend, you may designate someone to pick it up for you.

Support & Visit Our Generous Sponsors

Chairperson for Sponsors and Door Prizes:
Carol Brensing

Alabama Dance Theater
(Kate Smith)
1018 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36104

Alabama Shakespeare Festival
(Leigh Owen)
1 Festival Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117

Angel Nails Spa
(Phuong Nguyen)
2988 Carter Hill Road
Montgomery, AL 36106

Arrowhead Country Club
(Nancy Hilburn, GM)
50 Ocala Drive
Montgomery, AL 36117
(Inquire about membership)

Explore Media
(Pamela Greer)
7956 Vaughn Rd. #331
Montgomery, AL 36116

Marquirette's Exquisite Jewelry
(Lyle Fields)
8163 Vaughn Road
Montgomery, AL 36116

Montgomery Cardiovascular Associates Health & Fitness Center
(Wilson Scott)
7917 Vaughn Road
Montgomery, AL 36116



Peppertree Steaks and Wines
(Allison Norton)
8101A Vaughn Road
Montgomery, AL 36116

Periwinkle Distinctive Gifts
(Caryn Davis)
8193 Vaughn Road
Montgomery, AL 36116

Prevail Union Coffee Shop
(Tim Pinkham)
39 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36104

Sommers Place Restaurant
(Brian Stilwell)
7972 Vaughn Road
Montgomery, AL 36116

Tea Town
(Brandy Trieu)
7929 Vaughn Road
Montgomery, AL 36116

Tipico de Mexico
(Jose Vazquez)
3441 Malcolm Drive
Montgomery, AL 36116

Tucker Pecan Company
(David Little)
1935 Mulberry Street
Montgomery, AL 36106

Vintage Olive
(Carly Gannon)
8101B Vaughn Road
Montgomery, AL 36116

{Check#_____} or {Cash} Date received: _____

THE NEWCOMERS CLUB OF MONTGOMERY, INC.

Membership Form/Renewal Form

Club Year 2026-2027

LAST NAME: _____FIRST NAME: _____

PHONE #: _____Emergency Contact #_____(optional)

ADDRESS: _____ZIP CODE_____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

BIRTHDAY (month/day): _____SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

(Note: The information provided above will be printed in the membership directory)

_____**Check here ONLY if you are a prior member rejoining.**

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS

(Please check one)

____**STANDING RESERVATION: I will attend every luncheon** unless I notify the reservation chairperson no later than NOON the Monday prior to the luncheon.

____**I WILL CALL:** I will notify the reservation chairperson **IF I wish to attend** no later than NOON the Monday prior to the luncheon.

PLEASE NOTE: Notifying the reservation chairperson AFTER the Monday NOON deadline that you are unable to attend the luncheon will result in a charge of the price of the luncheon regardless if you are on the Standing Reservation list (we are expecting you) or on Will Call (reservation called in by you). After one missed Standing Reservation, you will be moved to the Will Call list.

ACTIVITIES

(Please check the activities that you would like to participate in)

____ARTS ALIVE ____ARTS & CRAFTS ____BOOK CLUB ____BUNCO ___CONTRACT RUMMY
____COOKING CLUB ____EXPLORERS CLUB ____LUNCH BUNCH ____MOVIE MAVENS _____TGIF
____MAH JONGG ____GARDENING

HOBBIES and INTERESTS

What sort of hobbies or special interests do you have?_____
Are you interested in starting a special interest Activity Group? Yes_____ No _____
If yes, what type of group would that be?_____
Would you be interested in serving on a future Newcomers Board? Yes_____ No_____

NEW MEMBERS ONLY
Where did you move from?_____When did you move? (month/year) _____
How did you learn about Newcomers?_____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Dues for the full year (June1 to the following May 31) - $25.00. Dues from January 1 to May 31- $12.50. Please return this completed form no later than July 31st for full year membership with your check made out to "Newcomers Club" and mailed to the following address:

Newcomers Club of Montgomery
P.O. Box 241946 | Montgomery, AL | 36124



The Newcomers Club of
the Greater Montgomery Area
P.O. Box 241946
Montgomery, AL 36124