



Austin Newcomers Welcome Mat

July 2016 ★ Vol. 69, No. 1

July General Meeting: An Evening of Fun, Friendship and Relaxation

Wednesday, July 20, 2016



2905 Pearce Road

5:00—8:00 pm

\$30 includes summer barbecue with hamburgers, chicken, veggie burgers and sides! Cash bar.

Price: \$30. RSVP online by July 17 at <http://bit.ly/newcomersmeeting> or see the inside back cover for mail registration by July 13.



Join us for an evening on Lake Austin's shore!

We are holding this evening meeting in place of our monthly luncheon. Located in West Austin, Ski Shores Cafe is a laid back waterside cafe which welcomes newcomers and locals with its free live music and friendly wait staff.

Annual Membership Is Due Now ... *Can Be Renewed Online!*

Here's how:

1. Log into the ANC site at the **Members Only** tab > **Manage Account** with your email (same email your renewal notice email was sent to) and password. If you have not logged in before on this new site, you may use the "Need a Password" option.
2. Now that you are logged in, your profile should automatically pop up with all your information.
3. Scroll down until you see the "Renew, Upgrade or Update Billing" button; click it. See payment choices:
 - **Automatic Renewal - \$35**, which will use your credit card and renew every year without you having to log in.
 - **Pay Online-no auto renewal** - If you want to pay by credit card for only one year, click on this. Fill in the details and at the very bottom, you will find a spot for "Discount Code". This is where you enter the **renewjuly** code to receive the \$5 discount. You have until August 31 for the \$5 discount. After August 31, annual membership dues are \$40.
4. Be sure to hit the "Save" button directly below the options, regardless of which one you choose. One last important note: some credit cards may not work as the system we have is particular. Please just try a different one. If you still have any questions, please feel free to contact Donna at withrow19@hotmail.com.
5. Still want to mail your membership? Send a check for \$35 to: Donna Withrow, 12312 Palisades Parkway, Austin, TX 78732.

Interest Groups & Events

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July Board Meeting

There will not be a separate ANC Board meeting in July. The new board will meet after the turnover luncheon.

Welcome New Members!

Donn and Jeanette LeVie

6329 Clarion Drive
Austin TX 78749, US

Phone: 512-301-2026
Email: jlevie@acfe.com

Friends Connection

Why fly solo when you can share with a member of The Friends Connection. Find a friend to see a movie, eat out, take a day trip or attend an Austin Newcomer's event. Put the word out to members of the group, see who else is interested and go together. Meeting times vary with activities. Join the group by contacting the group leader at thefriendsconnection@austinnewcomers.com or contact Karen Werner at karentwerner20@aol.com.

President's Message

Welcome to the Austin Newcomer's Club 2016-2017 edition! July 1st marks the beginning of our new calendar year. Your wonderful new Board is in place, and I'm delighted to have the honor of serving as your president in the year ahead. I'm very excited about the remarkably warm, fun, diverse club we've become in the last few years. As of June 30, we have 498 households—99 of whom are brand new.



We're all ages, from all sorts of places around the globe. One look at the variety of our interest groups certainly underscores the fact that we have diverse interests...and talents! Lots of people seem to have moved to Austin to be near children and grandchildren. Others are part of the "new job" boom that is making Austin the fastest growing city in the country. Some of you are longtime Newcomer members who've found friends and built your social lives around our group.

We live in all parts of the city—North, South, East and West. And we apparently like each other well enough that a drive outside our immediate neighborhood seems well worth the effort for the fun and friendship found on the other end.

When I moved to Austin from California, one of the things I liked best about Newcomers and its diverse activities was that I could replace here all the things I'd loved to do there. I hope you're finding—or will find—the same thing.

One of our anchor activities is our monthly luncheon, but because of the rousing success of holding cocktail gatherings in place of our luncheons last July and August, we're repeating evening events again this July and maybe in August, too. (Next month is still in the planning stages.) First up on our calendar is a lovely lakeside gathering at Ski Shores on Wednesday evening, July 20th, at 5:00. There'll be a big BBQ buffet and a cash bar, all enjoyed alfresco. Please come. Both couples and singles are welcome. RSVP either by [website](#) by July 17 or postmark by July 11.

Again, let me say how thrilled I am to serve as your new president. If you have any questions or concerns or ideas, please know I'll be glad to help. If you'd like to jump into your new club with both feet and need a job, let me or anyone on the board know, and we'll find you one. Also, if you're new and just need a friend, I, and a lot of the other wonderful people in this club can be good ones. So, just open your directory and reach out. You'll get a hand back, I promise!

Susie Spies

GAMES

1st Friday Bridge**July 8, 6:30 pm - 10:00 pm****Where:** Lamar Senior Activity Center, 2974 Shoal Crest**Cost:** \$5.00 per person**RSVP:** Call 512-280-4117 or e-mail: edward@stokes.biz

All Bridge players are welcome, both couples and singles. Players of average to very good are invited to join for a fun night of bridge.

We will be playing on the second Friday because the Lamar Senior Center is closed for the July 4th Holiday.

Kitchen Bridge**Wednesday, July 27, 10:30 am - 3:00 pm**

Bring your lunch.

Home of: Nedra Low, 5603 Barker Ridge Dr.**RSVP:** Nedra Low, 512-351-9113, nlow@austin.rr.com

Reservations may be made no earlier than the first of the month of the event.

Chair: Mimi Rhea, 512-491-0744, eerhea@att.net**3rd Thursday Bridge****Thursday, July 21****9:45 am Social Time****10:00 am Play begins promptly****Where:** IHOP, 1101 S. Mopac Expy. Note new venue!**Cost:** now \$2.00

This is a group of average to expert bridge players who enjoy playing together. We like the competition and challenge of party bridge and the opportunity to meet new people. Bridge is open to all.

RSVP: Hansa Nasta, 512-328-1886
hnasta@yahoo.com**Chair:** Felicia Morrison, 512-619-0100**Bunco****Tuesday, July 19, 10:30 am - 1:00 pm****Host:** Emma Nolan**Current Bunco members RSVP:** Emma at 512-709-1423, emma.nolan@live.com

Directions will be provided when you respond. Contact Mary Ann if you are interested in joining the group as a regular player or substitute.

Chair: Mary Ann Leitz, 504-259-8173, ditsy@att.net**Canasta****Monday,****July 11, 18 & 25, 11:00 am****Location:** Rocco's Grill
12432 Bee Cave Road
Bee Cave**RSVP:** Register online. If you have questions, email or call Dottie Thoms at canasta@austinnewcomers.com, 512-820-5980.**Details:** We meet every Monday for a relaxing day playing the Hand and Foot version of Canasta.

The game is easy to learn and new players are invited to join. The structure of the group encourages both regular weekly players or those who can only come occasionally. We get together at 11:00 am and play a few hands before breaking for lunch. We order from the menu under separate checks.

We continue to play for a few more hours, usually until about 2:30 to 4:00 PM depending on your table. Join us for a fun day of cards and conversation with a group of interesting ladies.

Cost: New players pay a one time fee of \$15.00 when they join to cover the cost of cards and supplies.**Euchre**

This group is in need of a chairperson. If you are interested in chairing this group, please contact Alison at alisonseaman@yahoo.com. Watch for event updates in the weekly bulletin.

GAMES, CONTINUED

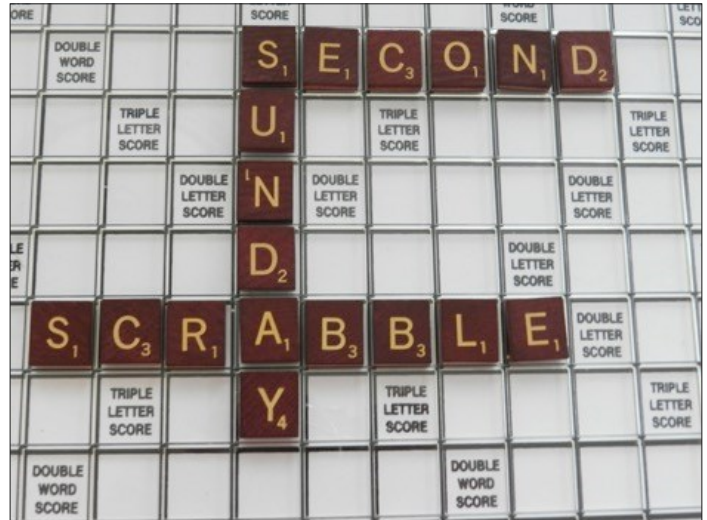
Mah Jongg**Thursdays, July 14 & 28, 1:00 - 4:00 pm**

We are now playing on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month.

Where: Café Express, 3418 North Lamar Blvd.

This group plays the American version of Mah Jongg and uses the National Mah Jongg card. We welcome anyone who is interested to join us. We now have a new location for our games and players are invited to come early for lunch if desired.

RSVP: Ruth Ann Plotkin, 512-582-0957
Ruthann.plotkin@gmail.com

**Second Sunday Scrabble****Sunday, July 10, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

Host: Sandy Longstreth, sandytzone@juno.com
 513-293-5523

Where: Russell's Bakery & Coffee Bar, 3339 Hancock Dr.

RSVP by July 6th: sandytzone@juno.com

Ladies Poker**Thursday, July 28th, 6:30 pm social; 7:00 game**

Host: Inge Eichberg, (512) 921-4034

Location: 5221 Trading Bend, 512-351-9807

Cost: \$5.00 plus snack and drink

RSVP: inge@austin.rr.com

Mexican Train**July 13, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm**

Location: Café Express, 3814 N. Lamar (near Seton)

Details: We meet the second Wednesday of the month for a game of dominoes. It is important to arrive on time so we can get the tables set. The game is fun and quick to learn. We play for an hour starting at 11am, break for lunch and end by 2pm. Good food/good fun! Bring an extra set of Mexican Train dominoes, if you have them.

RSVP: Nancy Belmont 512-330-4130 or [register online](http://registeronline.com). Questions? Email mexicantrain@austinnewcomers.com.



HEALTH & FITNESS

Hearty Hikers

Hearty Hikers has not scheduled any hikes for July and August. Hikes will resume in September!

Usual date: 2nd Tuesday in the morning

Golfing Around Austin

We will not meet again until September.

Happy Trails

We will take a rest during the months of July and August. Happy Trails - Saturday Walks in Austin will resume in September. In the meantime, find a trail and take in the beauty of this great city we live in.

"Now shall I walk or shall I ride?"

'Ride,' Pleasure said;

'Walk,' Joy replied."

BOOK GROUPS

Book Groups: Thursday, July 28**Social: 10:00 am, Discussion: 10:30 am****Book:** *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher* by Timothy Egan**Upcoming Books:**Aug. - *The Little Paris Book Shop* by Nina GeorgeSept. - *The Garden of Evening Mists* by Tan Twan EngOct. - *The Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai

We have kept this group going by creating three groups: Indian Paintbrush, Yellow Rose and Bluebonnet. All groups read the same books, which are chosen annually in the fall. If you would like to join a Book Group, please contact: Connie Esau, connieesau@gmail.com, 316-772-3736.

Bluebonnet Group**Host:** Home of Lou Blemaster
5612 N. Scout Island**Discussion Facilitator:** Sue Naylor**RSVP:** 512-551-2659,
loublemaster@gmail.com**Chairs:** Sue Naylor
ssnayl@gmail.com
Pam Von Mende
runpamrun@yahoo.com**Yellow Rose Group****Host:** Roz Stephenson
4101 Gandra Bend**RSVP:** email Roz Stephenson at
rozstephenson5@aol.com,
(512) 695-1803**Indian Paintbrush Group****Host:** Jayne Polly
11105 Scotland Well Dr.**Discussion Facilitator:** Sherrie Hale**RSVP:** Jayne Polly, 214-284-0704
Jayne.polly@hotmail.com**Chairs:** Andie Allen,
andreaalleninteriors@gmail.com and
Janet Lande, jslaustin@gmail.com**Men's Book Club****No July meeting; usually 4th Tuesday at 1 pm****Contact:** Hector Barrio, 512-633-2103,
hebate@gmail.com**Afternoon Mystery Book Group**

Our group will not meet in July or August. We will resume in September 2016. Details will be in the August Welcome Mat. For further information about the group, check the website: austinnewcomers.com.

ENTERTAINMENT & OUTINGS

Art House Cinema North**Friday, July 8, 7:30 pm****Cost:** \$1.00/person**Details:** Arthouse Cinema North selects a film of the group's interest. We see the film separately, then get together as a group to discuss and rate the movie as well as select a film for the following month.**RSVP:** We welcome new members. If you enjoy animated discussions, join us by sending your name, phone number and address to: Ingrid Sarrat, isarratster@gmail.com

Ingrid will place your name on the group's email list and contact you by email with specific information about the next film and meeting location.



ENTERTAINMENT & OUTINGS, CONTINUED

Art House Cinema South

Friday, July 8, 7:30 pm

Cost: \$1.00/person

Details: Arthouse Cinema South welcomes new members. We meet at the homes of members and discuss a movie or two selected at the previous meeting. We rate the movies, then select a movie and backup film for the next month.

RSVP: Please send your name, phone number and email address to Greg Bolton, gregbolton@yahoo.com, 512-395-4646. RSVP and direction information will be emailed to members one week before the event.

Shop Austin!

Thursday, June 30

11:45 am meet at Waterloo Parking Lot

12:00 lunch at Z-Tejas

1:30 pm Waterloo Records Tour and Shopping

What: Tour of World-Famous Waterloo Records

Where: Waterloo Records, 600 N. Lamar
Free parking in the lot.

RSVP by Monday, June 27 : [Register Online](#) or email Diane at cd_gallagher28@hotmail.com.

Details: We've all heard about the iconic landmark, record store and live music venue – Waterloo Records – but we're in for a real treat. The store's owner, John Kuntz, is going to give us a personal tour providing us with information about the store's history, services they offer (Did you know they sell your used records and CDs?) and how they've become recognized as one of the most popular record stores in the world.

For those who are interested in having lunch beforehand, we'll meet at the Store's parking lot and walk to Z-Tejas Southwestern Grill, 1110 W. 6th St., where you can order tableside guacamole and the best margaritas.



Critics Corner

Critics' Corner will take a break in July and August.

Usual date: 2nd Friday at 7:30 pm

Daytrippers

There will be no more trips until the fall. For information about Day Trippers contact "Twan" Brady at brady@gvec.net or 512-627-1363.

Shop Austin!

Tuesday, August 2, 10 am

What: Breed & Co. Tour and Shopping

Hosts: Diane Gallagher & Janet Jones

Where: Breed & Co. , 3663 Bee Cave Rd.

RSVP by Friday, July 29: [Register Online](#) or email Diane at cd_gallagher28@hotmail.com or Janet Jones at jones6lp@gmail.com We MUST know how many are planning to join us for lunch!

Details: Breed & Co. is so much more than a hardware store. While hardware is still a big part of the experience, the collection of products also includes some of the finest tableware, kitchenware, garden and seasonal décor you'll find anywhere. They also offer a full range of services from cutting keys and glass to a CO2 carbonator exchange! You have to see it to believe it. The Store's manager will give us an in-depth tour of all the store has to offer. We'll have time to browse on our own as well as shop the unique boutiques in Westlake Court Shopping Center including Embellish and Red Bird. And, of course, we'll have lunch at the famous Blue Dahlia.



ArtTreks and Explore Austin need chairs. If you have an interest in coordinating tours of area museums, please contact Alison Seaman at alisonseaman@yahoo.com.

FOOD/SOCIAL

Come to Dinner - Bring a Plate

Saturday, July 23rd (4th Saturday), time TBA

Event Host: TBA

Where: A restaurant to be announced.

How Much: Menu price

RSVP via email by July 19th: Sandy Strakosch,
gravelmom@yahoo.com, 410-960-8471

Details: This group of single women meets once a month for dinner at the home of a fellow member. The hostess plans the menu and distributes recipes to the guests. The guests are responsible for preparing one of the recipes. July, August, and December we venture out to Austin restaurants.

Our aim is to get together for an evening of good food and friendship.

TGI Social

Saturday, July 30, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Hosts: Doug & Charlotte Slack

Where: 11001 La Roca Cove

Cost: \$1.00 at door

RSVP: [Register online](#) or if you have questions, email tgisocial@austinnewcomers.com

Details: T.G.I.Social is the new name for Wine Socials, a time to kick back to meet and connect with friends old and new.

Bring: Hearty appetizers and beverages of your choice to share: beer, soft drinks, wine, tea, lemonade, etc. Singles bring beverage or appetizer. Couples bring both.

Happy Hour

Tuesday, July 19 (3rd Tuesday), 4 pm - 6 pm

Where: Dine Restaurant, Radisson Hotel
 111 East Cesar Chavez

RSVP: Joanie Maqsood, fairwayj341@gmail.com,
 972-672-0422

Details: Enjoy views of Lady Bird Lake and the Congress Bridge with old friends and new while sampling delicious bar snacks such as ceviche, grilled sausage, oysters, and even a burger at half-off prices. Beer and well-liquor drinks are also half-off. House wine is \$6.00.

Parking: Complimentary self-park in garage with validation. Enter driveway on Cesar Chavez; drive to the garage on the east side of the main entrance; proceed to the 3rd floor or above. Or valet park for \$6.00.



LANGUAGES/EXPATS

Expats

There will be no Ex-Pats social for July 2016

Usual date: 3rd Saturday at 6:00 pm

French Conversation

No official meetings in July and August

Usual date: 2nd Wednesday at 12:30 pm

Spanish Conversation

No meeting in July or August.

Usual date: 3rd Monday at 10 am

HOBBIES

Knit and Stitch**Thursday, July 7, 10:00 am****Host:** Susie Stix**Where:** 6007 Lost Trail Cove**RSVP by July 6:** stixmann@gmail.com or call 703-597-3259**Details:** We meet on the third Thursday of every month to knit, crochet, needlepoint, quilt or just engage in conversation.**Photography**

Welcome photographers! The photography interest group meets twice a month, once for a photo shoot usually the second Tuesday and again on the fourth Tuesday for a photo share session. If you would like to join the group, please email kajones510@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

PHOTO SHOOT**Location and time:** TBD

Instructions will be emailed to all members before each photo shoot giving the location, time and directions.

PHOTO SHARE SESSION**Date:** Fourth Tuesday of each month

Time: 10:30 AM socializing - 11:00 AM share session
Email 6 photos to Bill Sofer at billsofer@mac.com. He will compile a slide show to project the photos on a screen for all members to enjoy and to offer ideas.

Location: Precision Camera store's classroom at 2438 W. Anderson Lane in the West Anderson Plaza
Optional lunch afterwards at a nearby restaurant.

HELLO AUSTIN!

Hello Austin!**July 27, 5:30pm****Location:** Austin Beer Garden and Brewing Company (The ABGB), 1305 W. Oltorf Austin, TX 78704**Hosts:** Joy Simon & Mary Pat Bolton**RSVP by July 24th:** [Register online](#) or helloaustin@austinnewcomers.com**Details:** THE AUSTIN BEER GARDEN BREWING COMPANY

Beer, Music, and Food! ABGB offers great craft beer, fresh, hot pizza and nice big Muffaletta sandwiches. Enjoy terrific solo artist or bands, depending on the night. Come and hang out in the shade with your pup, friends, and fellow Austinites. We need to get there early to get good seating. Register online at Hello Austin.

Cheers!



2016 - 2017 SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR THE AUSTIN NEWCOMERS CLUB

Executive Board

President
President Elect
First VP Membership
Second VP Programs
Secretary
Treasurer
Meetings Director
Newsletter Editor
Webmaster
Interest Group Chair
Publicity/Comm. Dir.
Parliamentarian (appt)

2015-16

Jan Jones

Annie Prasad
Susi Spies
Renee Bazar
Darlene Mahanay
Peggy Sklar
Brandon Jones
David Scheick
Alison Seaman
Diane Gallagher
Marj Lowe

2016-17

Susi Spies
Sangie Krishnan
Donna Withrow
Laurie Gillig/Kathy Finley/Beth Noe
Paul Parrish
Valerie Ojeman
Laurie Gillig/Kathy Finley/Beth Noe
Cindy Fenton
Absorbed
Alison Seaman
Diane Gallagher
Marj Lowe

Standing Committee Chairs

Member Services
Web Asst. (Wkly Bulletin)
Calendar
Historian
Board Transition
Name Tags
Greeter
Member at Large

Karen/Don Kirmis
Joy Simon
Roni Seaman
Sally DuBane
Charlotte Slack
Susanna Surbek
Mary Pat Bolton
Diane Gallagher

Annie Prasad
Susana Surbek
Don Kirmis
Jane VanDellen/Beth Oliver
Mary Pat Bolton
Peggy Sklar
Evelyn McMillen
Jan Jones

GO GREEN.... GO PAPERLESS

Sign up to get this newsletter via email.

Send an email to:

vpmembership@austinnewcomers.com



Take a Camera Along!

We would like to receive and publish pictures taken by the Interest Groups. Please include the name of the group and the date of the event.

Please send copies to:

historian@austinnewcomers.com

newsletter@austinnewcomers.com (Welcome Mat)

July 2016

If you are viewing this newsletter as a PDF, note that all underlined text below are links!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Knit & Stitch 10 am	8 Arthouse Cinema 7:30pm South, North 1st Friday Social Bridge 6:30 pm	9
10 Second Sunday Scrabble 3 pm	11 Canasta 11 am	12 Photography Group - Photo Shoot , time TBD	13 Mexican Train 11 am	14 Mah Jongg 1 pm	15	16
17	18 Canasta 11 am	19 Bunco 10:30 am Happy Hour 4 pm	20 General Membership Monthly Meeting 5:00 pm	21 Third Thursday Bridge 9:45 am	22	23 Come to Dinner- Bring a Plate , time TBD
24	25 Canasta 11 am	26 Photography - Photo Share 10:30 am	27 Kitchen Bridge 10:30 am Hello Austin - ABGB 5 pm	28 Book Groups 10 am Mah Jongg 1:00 Ladies Poker 6:30	29	30 T.G.I. Social 4 pm
31	1	2 Shop Austin! Tour of Breed & Co. 10 am	3 Board Meeting 9:30 am	4 Knit & Stitch 10 am	5 1st Friday Social Bridge 6:30 pm	6

RSVP REQUIRED: <http://bit.ly/newcomersmeeting> or complete form below



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING RESERVATION for Wednesday, July 20th

Meeting Price: \$30.00 Make check payable to: **Austin Newcomers Club**

Name(s) _____

Please print

Phone _____

Check one: ☐ Continuing member household ☐ Have not joined yet
☐ 1st luncheon as member ☐ 2nd luncheon as member

Austin zip code _____ moved from _____

Guest _____

Please print

We always need greeters at our monthly meetings. It's an easy job and a great way to get acquainted with other Newcomers. Let us know if you are willing to help at this meeting or a future one. The Greeter Coordinator will call you with additional details. ☐ I'm willing to be a greeter at this meeting. ☐ I'm interested in being a greeter at a future meeting.

FOR MEMBERS WITH DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, AN ALTERNATIVE MENU OPTION IS AVAILABLE—NOTICE IS REQUIRED WITH THE RSVP. Please include specific information regarding restrictions.

MEMBER IS FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MENU SUBSTITUTIONS MADE AT THE EVENT.

Please mail check and form to Laurie Gillig, 11701 Shadestone Terrace, Austin, TX 78732.

Cancellations due by July 14th. Call (614) 361-4936 or luncheondirector@austinnewcomers.com

Postmark by
July 13 (Wed.
before) Online
RSVP by July 17

Interest Group Chairs Needed

A NC Members: Have you ever wished there was an interest group that you think would be a lot of fun? Well, the good news is, you can form one and chair it yourself or grab a co-chair to help you. It doesn't matter if you are going out of town for a week or a month, you can use your co-chair to fill in for you OR do not hold an activity during that time. Pretty much anything goes, so please contact me, Alison alisonseaman@yahoo.com. I am the interest group chair and would love to hear and help!

Besides forming new groups, there are a few groups that need new chairs. ArTreks (setting up trips to museums, galleries, studios for all to enjoy). Euchre (an easy, social card game) and Explore Austin (just that, exploring what Austin has to offer). Try This! is also open for a new leader (this is suggestions of activities during the month that get posted in the Welcome Mat to do yourself). There are no

formulas for any group. Take them and run.... please consider enriching our ANC group by stepping up. It's a lot of fun for you and everyone else!





PO Box 163343
Austin TX 78716-3343

Welcome Mat Staff

Newsletter Editor *Cindy Fenton*

Austin Newcomers Officers

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President-Elect	<i>Sangie Krishnan</i>
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Communications	
and Publicity	
Parliamentarian	<i>Marj Lowe</i>

Address Corrections or Changes:

Email vpmembership@austinnewcomers.com or call 512-520-5911.

Visit our website — austinnewcomers.com for information about our activities and a membership registration form to print. Find out more about the Austin area too!

Newsletter Articles: Send all information related to the Welcome Mat newsletter to newsletter@austinnewcomers.com

Reminder: Members may **not** make **commercial solicitations** at any meeting or activity, nor use our directory for any commercial solicitations. Thank you.



PHOTOS WANTED!

Our historians Jane VanDellen and Beth Oliver very much want photos of every interest group! Please send them to mtnsgal@gmail.com as well as to **Historian@austinnewcomers.com**.