



Austin Newcomers Welcome Mat

September 2016 ★ Vol. 69, No. 3

September Luncheon

Texas Hidden Gems:

Lesser known spots around the state which are worth a trek

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Kristen Finan, author and features travel editor at the Austin American Statesman, will speak at our September luncheon. She is the author of multiple books on topics such as budget travel, food-lovers' travel and weekend getaways.

Finan is an Austin native and holds a degree in journalism from UT.

Location: Chez Zee Restaurant

Cost: \$30 per person

Address: 5406 Balcones Dr.

Time: 11:00 am social time.
Noon luncheon buffet with
program to follow

RSVP online by September 18 by clicking [HERE](#) or see the inside back cover for mail-in RSVP by September 16.



ANC Holiday Bazaar
November 16th, 2016
River Place Country Club
10:00 am - 3:00 pm



Craft Fair hosts are Kathy Finley, Laurie Gillig, Beth Noe, Carol Witt.
Contact Kathy Finley with questions: jfinley825@aol.com.

**Mark your
calendar!**

- Returning are old favorites in jewelry, woven goods, note cards, linens, ornaments plus new items such as candies, desserts, nuts, beaded flatware, pillows, wreaths and much more!
- Special luncheon menu
- 20 vendors and we still have room if you have not signed up
- Longer hours to shop 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- Plus more gift items to entice

President's Message



Happy end of summer everyone! Hopefully the summer wind-down will also include an end to our record-breaking triple digit heat. Fortunately for overheated Americans everywhere, the Olympic Games has kept a lot of us inside enjoying the air conditioning.

I ventured out recently for dinner with new friends. One of my male companions happened to mention how much he missed card-playing opportunities after moving to Austin. That got me thinking about a New York Times article by Jane Brody I'd read titled "The Challenges of Male Friendship" relating how hard it can be for men to develop meaningful friendships. Brody noted that "men's friendships are more often based on mutual activities like sports and work rather than on what's happening to them psychologically. A move to a new city or a retirement disrupts contact with the old friends and colleagues who may have shared those mutual interests and experiences."

Replacing friends in new circumstances appears to be tougher for men than women. The Times reported that traditionally many men have been so focused on their work, that they haven't had time to develop the meaningful friend-making skills women seemed more innately blessed with.

There is certainly a plethora of men everywhere who know how to work a room and make a friend. But the thought that it is seemingly harder for a man to make a real, bona fide friend made me realize what an important link Newcomers can provide. An Australian Longitudinal Study of Ageing that showed "friendships increased life expectancy by as much as 22 percent!"

I was proud to be able to point out to my new dinner friend that Newcomers has opportunities for him to play the card games he was missing after his move, plus many other activities for both men and women. I noted that we're working to launch several new men's interest groups. This experience made me more aware how valuable a vibrant, thriving, ever-growing club like Austin Newcomers Club is for everyone moving to a new city and trying to cobble a new life together or for someone retiring or divorcing, recently widowed or entering any new phase of their life. It's HARD to start anew!

Thankfully, our Club is filled with lovely, warm people more than willing to lend a hand and a warm smile to all the men (and women!) who need one. May I offer a toast to personal growth and friendship as we're about to turn the calendar to September and launch our new fall social season!

Interest Groups & Events

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September Board Meeting

Wednesday, Sept. 7

**9:30 am social,
meeting at 10:00 am**

Host: Kathy Finley
11708 Eagles Glen

RSVP: Susi Spies,
susi.spies@gmail.com
Kathy Finley
440-759-4742

BOOK GROUPS

Book Groups: Thursday, September 22**Social: 10:00 am, Discussion: 10:30 am****Book:** *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George**Upcoming Books:**Sept.- *The Garden of Evening Mists* by Tan Twan EngOct.- *The Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai

Nov./Dec.-Combined meeting with local author

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:

Sue Naylor
ssnayl@gmail.com

**Bluebonnet Group**

Host: Hester White Westminster
 4200 Jackson

Facilitator: Marilyn Smolinsky

RSVP: Hester White Westminster
 512-371-3542

Chairs: Sue Naylor
ssnayl@gmail.com

Yellow Rose Group

Host: Mary Louise McKaughan
 6409 Abilene Trail 78749

Facilitator: Mimi Rhea

RSVP: mmckaughan@att.net or
 512-786-7737

Chairs: Gayle Cannon
gayle.cannon70@gmail.com
 Connie Esau
connieesau@gmail.com

Indian Paintbrush Group

Host: Martha O'Connell
 10402 Charette Cove

Facilitator: Sharon Moore

Chairs: Andie Allen
andreaalleninteriors@gmail.com
 Janet Lande
jslaustin@gmail.com

Afternoon Mystery Book Group

We meet in member's homes at 1:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month from September to May to discuss books whose subjects are always mysteries.

When: Wednesday, Sept. 14

Hostess: Karen Kirmis

Discussion leader: Karen Kirmis

Book: *Winter and Night* by R. J. Rozen

RSVP: kkrimis@gmail.com

Upcoming titles:

An Unsuitable Job for a Woman by P.D. James
Career of Evil by John Galbraith
Bruno, Chief of Police by Martin Walker
The Blackhouse by Peter May
Daughter of Time by Josephine Tey
The Art Forger by B A Shapiro
A Small Death in the Great Glen by A D Scott
The Nature of the Beast by Louise Penny

Men's Book Club**Tuesday, September 27, 1:00 pm**

Host: Harry Polly
 11105 Scotland Well Dr.

Chair: Hector Barrio, 512-633-2103
hebate@gmail.com

Book: "The Wright Brothers" by David McCullough
 In this enjoyable, fast paced tale, McCullough shows as never before how two Ohio boys from a remarkable family taught the world how to fly, and captures the marvel of what the Wrights accomplished. It is a story of timeless importance told with uncommon empathy and fluency about what might be the most astonishing feat mankind has ever accomplished.

ENTERTAINMENT & OUTINGS

Art House Cinema North**Friday, September 9, 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 Sarra, 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.

Art House Cinema South**Friday, September 9, 7:00 pm****Cost:** \$1.00/person

Details: Love to go to the movies? Love to discuss them with others who share your passions? Would it be most convenient for you to meet on the south side of town? Arthouse Cinema South is right for you. The group chooses a current film (and usually a backup film) at its monthly meetings. Members see the movies on their own, and then get together as a group to discuss and rate their selections. The group meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Friday of the month. The meeting places are south of Lady Bird Lake and Lake Austin, but you can view the films anywhere in town.

For more information contact ArthouseCinemaSouth@austinnewcomers.com.

Critics Corner**Friday, September 9, 7:30 pm**

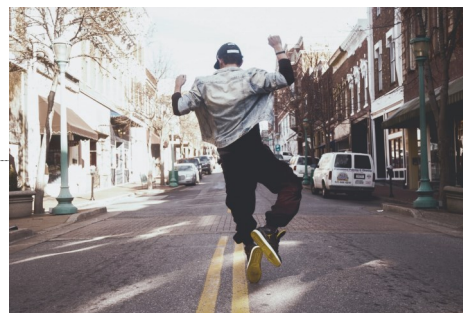
Members will receive an invite with information about the movie and the location of the meeting. Members see the movie on their own, then bring either a bottle of wine (or beverage of their choice) or an appetizer for 12 people to the meeting. Couples should bring both wine and an appetizer.

New Members: Bobbi Barrio
criticscorner@austinnewcomers.com

Day Trippers

See next month's Welcome Mat for information about our October trip to Bastrop for two unique tours and lunch before heading back to Austin!

For information about Day Trippers contact "Twan" Brady at brady@gvec.net or 512-627-1363.

**Dance Austin!****Friday, September 16, 7:30 - 11:00 pm****Two-Step and Country Waltz Lessons**

Where: Go Dance Studio, 4477 S. Lamar, Suite 530

RSVP: By 9/15, specific instructions to be provided later

Cost: \$10 per person

For more information: Alison Seaman,
alisonseaman@yahoo.com or
Karen Kirmis, kkirmis@gmail.com.

Details: We are all meeting at the Go Dance Studio for a group dance lesson. After refreshments, stay and practice what we learned on the dance floor! This is a totally fun event for dancers and non dancers alike. No partners are needed. Wear boots or soft soled shoes. We are getting a \$5.00 discount and joining the Newcomer Night. Come and join us, please. This is Dance Austin's kick off event! The lesson is 90 minutes long then stay and dance as long as you want to up until 11:00 pm!

ENTERTAINMENT & OUTINGS, continued

Shop Austin!**Thursday, September 29****Carpool at 7:30 am, event at 9:00 am****What:** Round Top Antique Tour**Hosts:** Diane Gallagher & Janet Jones**Where:** The Arbor, 1503 N. St. Highway 237, Round Top**RSVP by 9/27:** [Register Online](#) or emailDiane at cd_gallagher28@hotmail.comJanet Jones at jones6lp@gmail.com

Details: Experience a sampling of the antiques event that is nearby in the little town of Round Top. Exhibitors come from all over the U.S., Canada & Europe with items ranging from fine antiques to old tools and everything in between. There are many venues within this 10 mile radius and we have selected the Arbor (www.arbor-antiques.com) and Marburger Farms (www.roundtop-Marburger.com) to whet your appetite for future shows. We will begin at the Arbor at 9 and after lunch, we will drive over to Marburger Farms for afternoon shopping. (\$10 admission to Marburger). We will carpool from Planet Fitness at the Y (290/Hwy71). Bring sun protection and comfortable walking shoes!

Shop Austin!**Tuesday, October 4****Carpool at 9:00 am, event at 10:00 am****What:** Wimberly Glassworks**Hosts:** Diane Gallagher & Janet Jones**Where:** 6469 RR 12. San Marcos**RSVP by 10/1:** [Register Online](#) or emailDiane at cd_gallagher28@hotmail.comJanet Jones at jones6lp@gmail.com**Cost:** \$2 at the door

Details: Join us for a day in Wimberley. We will begin at the Wimberley Glass Works for a demonstration beginning promptly at 10:00 am. Wimberley Glassworks is the Southwest's premier hand blown glass lighting and art glass studio, creating exclusive glass collections, limited edition vases, sculptures, platters and lighting since 1992.

We will drive into the quaint town of Wimberley for lunch and if desired, additional shopping in the town. We will dine at the Leaning Pear and shop on our own. Please RSVP for lunch as well.

For more information see www.wgw.com.

Mark your calendars for our November 11 Shop Austin outing to Fredericksburg!

The Play's the Thing**Six Saturdays Oct. - June**

As a group, theater lovers will attend six plays in the Austin Playhouse 2016-2017 season. The plays and dates are:

- October 1, SILENT SKY by Lauren Gunderson;
- December 3, BASKERVILLE, A SERLOCK HOLMES MYSTERY by Ken Ludwig;
- February 4, BLOOMSDAY by Steven Dietz;
- March 4, DEATH OF A SALESMAN by Arthur Miller
- April 1, SENSE AND SENSIBILITY by Kate Hamill;
- June 3, GUYS AND DOLLS by Frank Loesser, Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows



The cost for each six-play subscription is \$150 for adults and \$140 for adults 65 and older.

To subscribe, call Cyndi at the Austin Playhouse Box Office at 512-476-0084. Mention that you are with the Austin Newcomers Theater Group in order to be seated with the group. One of the many advantages of subscribing is that you can change to other dates during the season if you have a conflict.

Prior to each performance, we will meet at 5:30pm at VINO VINO at 4119 Guadalupe for some wining and dining.

For more information about the plays, other subscriber benefits and directions to the theater, go to www.austinplayhouse.com. For general information about the theater-lovers group, send an email to Rinette Seidner at plays@austinnewcomers.com.

ENTERTAINMENT & OUTINGS, continued

Friends Connection

Sunday, September 11, 1:00 pm

What: Jack Allen Kitchen 360 Brunch

Where: 3600 Capitol of Texas Hwy., 78746

RSVP by Sept. 10: Karen Werner, karentwerner20@aol.com



Details: New members provide name, address, cell number. The Friends Connection is a group interested in developing friendships. We will be starting out the season by having brunch at a very popular restaurant. Jack Allen's kitchen is rated top ten in the Zagat listing of American food in Austin. It is reasonably priced! If you have not eaten at this restaurant, you are in for a treat! It is their 3rd restaurant opening and they even have a cookbook!

Our aim is to get to know each other. Also, I am open to ideas for activities our group could participate in this coming year. So please think of fun activities ahead of time of our gathering or e-mail me your ideas.

If you are bringing a guest, interested in car pooling or need a ride, let Karen know.

Try This

Check out these Austin-area activities

Austin Music Video Festival

September 7-10

Various locations around Austin. Now in its second year, the Austin Music Video Fest celebrates Austin's long standing music video heritage with screenings, awards, parties, panels and workshops around town. The 2nd annual Austin Music Video Festival takes place across Austin's hottest screens and stages.

www.austinmusicvideofestival.com

Austin Museum Day

Sunday, September 18

Museums across Austin. Organized by the Austin Museum Partnership, this special day features free exhibitions and activities at participating Austin-area museums and cultural sites. Download the app for information.

www.austinmuseums.org

Texas Craft Brewers Festival

Saturday, September 24, 2 – 6:30 pm

Fiesta Gardens 2101 Jesse E. Segovia St. The Texas Craft Brewers Fest is the largest beer festival for and by Texas Brewers. This annual event features the best of Texas craft beer and displays the thriving beer community across the Lone Star State. www.texascraftbrewersfestival.org.

Fall 2016 Pecan Street Festival

Saturday, September 24, 11:00 am - 10:00pm, &

Sunday, September 25, 11:00 am - 8:00pm

Sixth Street Austin. The 37th annual Fall Pecan Street Festival is a FREE, bi-annual juried music, arts, and crafts festival held on historic Sixth Street. The show proudly features over 300 artisan vendors from all over the world who display and sell homemade art and craft work.

www.pecanstreetfestival.org.

Antique Weekend, Round Top, TX

Monday, September 26 – Friday, October 1, 9:00 am - varied closing times

Antique Weekend takes place in more than a half dozen small rural Texas communities at a midpoint between Houston and Austin. If you like antiques this is the event for you. The Round Top Antiques Fair, held twice a year in September and March, offers unusual, one-of-a-kind antiques in 3 air conditioned venues.

www.roundtoptexasantiques.com

The Marburger Farm Antique Show

September 27 - October 1

Also in Round Top. www.roundtop-marburger.com

Please email any ideas you may have to Lynne Marcus at Lmarcus08@gmail.com with Try This in the subject line. Please include a link to a website if you know it.

FOOD/SOCIAL

Come to Dinner - Bring a Plate**Saturday, September 24, 6:30 pm****Host:** Barbara Cook**RSVP by 8/10:** Barbara will send an email to the members on our list in early September. Please respond to that email only. We cannot take reservations through the website.**Details:** Come to Dinner is a small group of single women who meet once a month for dinner at members' homes. We each bring part of the dinner. The menu is prepared by the host/co-host for the month. As this is a very full group, we are looking for someone to begin a new group for new members and others who would like to join. Please contact Sandy Strakosch if you are interested in helping Newcomers' single women! Our aim is to get together for an evening of good food and friendship.**Chair:** Sandy Strakosch, gravelmom@yahoo.comOpportunity
to Chair!**Happy Hour****Tuesday, September 20, 5:00 - 7:00 pm****Where:** Olivia, 2043 South Lamar Blvd.**RSVP by 9/18:** [Online](#) or email Joanie Maqsood
fairwayj341@gmail.com**Price:** Cost of food and drinks, separate checks.**Details:** It will be a fun evening where we can meet and mingle and enjoy 30% off bar food and selected wines. There is plenty of parking beside the restaurant.**Out to Lunch Bunch****Monday, September 19, 11:30 am****Where:** Cafe Malta 3421 W. William Cannon**RSVP by 9/17:** Register [Online](#)**Price:** Cost of food and drinks, separate checks.**Details:** Join us for the return of Out to Lunch Bunch! Cafe Malta is a casual bistro like one might find in Costa Brava or Salerno- relaxed and unpretentious stressing simplicity and fresh ingredients. The cuisine is inspired by the Mediterranean region showcasing Italy, Spain, southern France, Morocco and Greece. Check out the menu at cafemaltaaustin.com.**Limit of 20, register early!****TGI Social****Thank Goodness It's Social****Sunday, September 25, 4:00 - 6:00 pm****A time to kick back to meet and connect with friends old and new. Nothing but FUN on the agenda!****Hosts:** Jack and Shirl Slayton**Where:** 6604 Magenta Lane, 78739**Cost:** \$1.00 at door to cover paper goods**RSVP:** [Register online](#) or email group chair Charlotte Slack
cbs200@gmail.com, 979-255-1680 and Jack Slayton
jackrslayton@austin.rr.com, 512-916-4948**Questions:** Email tgisocial@austinnewcomers.com or contact Charlotte Slack at cbs200@gmail.com
979-255-1680**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.

Get a head start on October! Mark your calendar for:

Sunday, October 22, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Home of Brandon and Kathy Jones

10916 Range View Drive, 78730

RSVP online or to group chair and Kathy Jones,
kajones510@gmail.com, 512-241-1663.

LANGUAGES/EXPATS

Expats**Saturday, September 17, 6:00 pm****Host:** Joanie and Saj Maqsood**Where:** 908 W Elizabeth Street, 78704**RSVP by 9/12:** fairwayj341@gmail.com or
972-672-0422
no RSVP deadline**Details:** We enjoy sharing our overseas experiences and being with members who are from outside the US. If you are curious about other cultures, while sharing yours or your overseas travel experiences, please join us at our monthly gatherings. Each individual or couple is requested to bring a large appetizer and a bottle of wine for a stand-up mix and mingle supper. Limit is 38 guests.**French Conversation****Wednesday, September 14, 12:30 pm****Host:** Patricia Anderson**Where:** 401 West 32nd Street, 78705**RSVP Necessary:** Patricia Anderson (512) 970 2182 or
pmja66@aol.com**Topic:** What was the highlight of your summer?**Spanish Conversation****Monday, September 19, 10:00 am****Host:** Karen Werner**Where:** La Madeleine Restaurant - The Village at
Westlake. 01 S. Capital of Texas Hwy. Ste G**RSVP by 9/18:** Register [Online](#).

GAMES

1st Friday Bridge**Friday, September 9*, 6:30 pm - 9:45 pm****Host:** Deidre Brightman**Where:** Lamar Senior Activity Center, 2974 Shoal Crest**Cost:** \$5.00 per person**RSVP:** Deidre Brighman (this month only)
deidre1025@gmail.com
512-750-3948**Chair:** Ed Stokes, edward@stokes.biz, (512) 280-4117

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 are meeting this month on the second Friday as the Senior Center is closed for the holiday.

3rd Thursday Bridge**Thursday, September 15****9:45 am Social Time****10:00 am play begins promptly****Where:** IHOP, 1101 S. Mopac Expy. Note new venue!**Cost:** \$3.00

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: Alys Honey, 512-346-7791,
honeyalys@gmail.com**Chair:** Felicia Morrison, 512-619-0100,
feliciamorrison@hotmail.com

GAMES, continued

Kitchen Bridge**Wednesday, September 28, 10:30 am - 3:00 pm****Home of:** Pam Von Mende
3314 San Benito Court**Cost:** \$2.25
Bring your lunch**RSVP:** runpamrun@yahoo.com
Reservations may be made no earlier than the first of the month of the event.**Bunco****Tuesday, September 20, 10:30 am - 1:00 pm****Host:** Priscilla Gabbi**Current Bunco members RSVP:** Priscilla,
512-431-4968 or priscilla@planetgabbi.com.

Directions will be provided when you respond. Contact Mary Ann Leitz 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, September* 12, 19 & 26, 11:00 am****Location:** Rocco's Grill
12432 Bee Cave Road
Bee Cave**RSVP:** Register [online](#) the Sunday before each date. 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 a Hand and Foot version of Canasta. The game is easy to learn and new players are invited to join. You're welcome to play as often as you'd like - weekly or just occasionally.

We break for lunch, order from the menu and get separate checks and continue playing afterward.

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 when they join to cover the cost of cards and supplies.

*No meeting on Labor Day, September 5.

Euchre**Saturday, September 17, 6:00 pm****Host:** Barbara Cook
13401 Legendary Drive #5103, 78727**Cost:** \$5.00**RSVP by 9/16:** [Online](#) or email
euchre@austinnewcomers.com**Chair:** Kasha Petrea, 716-393-1991
kasha.action@gmail.com

This game is quick and easy to learn but with enough challenge to make it interesting. We welcome seasoned and new players looking for an evening of fun playing cards. Limit 8 players.



GAMES, continued

Ladies Poker

Thursday, September 22, 6:30 pm

Host: Sharon Dismore
10018 Estancia Lane

Cost: \$5.00

RSVP: [Online](#) or inge@austin.rr.com
Directions will be given at time of RSVP

Chair: Inge Eichberg
512-351-9807
inge@austin.rr.com

Bring a snack/appetizer to share and remember it's BYOB. Hostess will provide water or soda.

Mah Jongg

Thursdays, September 8 & 22, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Where: Café Express, 3418 North Lamar Blvd.

Details: 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. Players are invited to come early for lunch if desired.

RSVP: Jeanne Broussard,
Jeanne.marie.broussard@gmail.com



Mexican Train

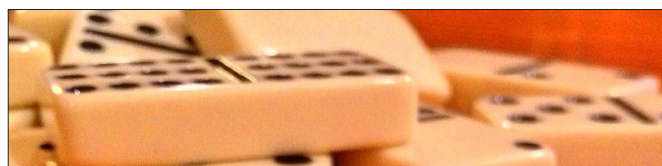
Wednesday, September 14 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

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

Cost: \$2.00

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 by 8am, day of game: Register [online](#) or contact Nancy Belmont 512-330-4130,
mexicantrain@austinnewcomers.com.



Pinochle

Tuesdays, September 13 & 27, 6:30 pm

Host: Nancy & Greg Shipley
5812 Tributary Ridge Dr.

RSVP: Gshipley14@me.com, 832-236-9909

Details: Everyone invited to learn/relearn this fun card game. Single deck and double deck variations will be explored. There are many ways to play this game so come share what you know. Open to all ideas so long as we are having fun!

Second Sunday Scrabble

Sunday, September 11, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

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

RSVP by Sept. 6th: sandytzone@juno.com

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



HEALTH/FITNESS

Golfing Around Austin**Monday, October 17****Cost:** Greens fees vary, pay at course**RSVP by 10/9:** Register [online](#) or email jwcates3@gmail.com at least 8 days before play date

Details: The group normally plays the 2nd Monday of each month at various area golf courses. Our first play date after the summer break was scheduled for September 12 (course not yet known as of press time). Due to the Columbus Day holiday, our play date in October will be on Monday, October 17, and I'll try to get us on at Morris Williams if tee times are available. Our upcoming play dates for Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 are Nov 14, Dec 12, Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 13, Apr 10 and May 8. Please contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

John Cates, 832 814-8402, jwcates3@gmail.com**Happy Trails****Saturday, September 3, 9:00 am**

Where: Madrone Canyon Nature Preserve/Laura Bush Community Library
9411 Bee Cave Road, 78733

RSVP: Register [online](#) or contact donnadau@hotmail.com. No deadline.

Details: We will be treated to a guided tour of this nature trail featuring a panoramic view of the Texas Hill Country and a look at the unique habitat for a native and endangered tree called the Texas Madrone. The tour will take about an hour. The path requires some navigation, so good hiking shoes are a must. Bring water, and please dress for the weather. After the walk, there will be an optional tour of the library.

Hearty Hikers**Tuesday, September 13, 9:30 am**

Where: Bright Leaf Preserve, meet in parking lot (off 2222 between 360 and Mopac)

Cost: Free guided hike

Optional lunch: Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones Dr.
512-454-2666

What to bring: Sunscreen, hat, sturdy shoes, water, and a walking stick is optional. Hikes are approximately 4 miles long and last about 2 hours.

Bright Leaf Preserve is a natural area with over 200 acres that was purchased by Georgia Lucas so that the people of Austin could appreciate the beauty of nature around them. The trails consist of loose rock and shale, crossing over a gurgling creek and wandering through a wooded area. There is a gradual hill, but it is not too steep. Restrooms are available at the trailhead. No dogs allowed. Please be prompt as this is a guided hike by a Preserve volunteer.

Living Well**Thursday, September 15, 11:00 am**

Where: Wildwood Bake House.
3016 Guadalupe. Ste 200

RSVP by 9/13: Register [Online](#) or email jones6LP@gmail.com

Join us for the kick off of our new Interest Group designed to share and explore keys to wellness! We will discuss possible topics and directions the group may take. Our hope is to share resources, research, and seek out local stores/eateries that offer healthy options and potentially guest speakers.

HELLO AUSTIN!

See full details for each Hello Austin event and register for events at www.austinnewcomers.com. Questions contact helloaustin@austinnewcomers.com

Big Band Night at Oasis**Monday, September 19, 8:00 pm**

Love Music? Love to Dance? On Monday, September 19th at the Oasis you can step back into the 40's and 50's with the Big Band sounds of Kent Dugan's Republic of Texas Band. This 30-plus piece band has two singers that love to croon. Admission is free but they do pass the hat. Bar service is available from 8-10:00 pm. See you on the dance floor. Please RSVP so we know how many seats to reserve.

1776 The Musical at Georgetown Palace Theater**Saturday, October 8, 7:30 pm**

Tickets are \$34 per adult. Go online to RSVP now.

This most unconventional of Broadway puts a human face on the pages of history as we see the people behind the icons: proud, frightened, uncertain, irritable,

charming, often petty and ultimately noble and determined to do the right thing for a fledgling nation. This Tony award-winning musical includes songs such as "Sit Down, John," "He Plays the Violin," "Mama, Look Sharp," and "Is Anybody There?"

Dinner plans will be made after a roster of attendees is gathered.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:**October**

- Argus Cidery Tour, Oct. 29, cider tasting at 2:00 pm
- House Concert at Ham Jam House (Need Event Coordinator)
- Mixology Class, Total Wines North, Date TBD

November

- Hockey Game, Nov. 12
- Con' Olio Cooking Class

December

- Christmas Carols & Tree Lighting, Dec. 3
- Pop Series at Palmer Events Center, Dec. 29



Event
Coordinator
Opportunity

HOBBIES

Knit and Stitch**Thursday, September 1, 10:00 am**

RSVP: heatherashbee@comcast.net

Details: We meet on the first Thursday of each month from 10am-noon to knit, crochet or do laptop needlework projects. Join us for coffee, crafting and 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.

September 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 Knit & Stitch 10:00 am | 2 | 3 Happy Trails 9:00 am |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 Board Meeting 9:30 am | 8 Mah Jongg 1:00 pm | 9 1st Friday Bridge 6:30 pm Arthouse Cinema South , 7:00 pm North , 7:30 pm Critics Corner 7:30 pm | 10 |
| 11 Friends Connection 1:00 pm Second Sunday Scrabble 3:00 pm | 12 Golfing Around Austin , TBA Canasta 11:00 am | 13 Hearty Hikers 9:30 am Pinochle 6:30 pm Photography Group - Photo Shoot , TBD | 14 Mexican Train 11:00 am Mystery Book Group , 1:00pm French 12:30 pm | 15 Third Thursday Bridge 9:45 am Living Well 11:00 am | 16 Dance Austin 7:30 pm | 17 Expats 6:00 pm Euchre 6:00 pm |
| 18 Hello Austin! Women's Volleyball 12:00 pm | 19 Spanish 10:00am Canasta 11:00am Out to Lunch Bunch 11:30 am Hello Austin! Big Band Night 8:00 pm | 20 Happy Hour 5 :00 pm Bunco 10:30 am | 21 Monthly Luncheon 11:00 am | 22 Book Groups 10:00 am Mah Jongg 1:00 pm Ladies Poker 6:30 pm | 23 | 24 Come to Dinner- Bring a Plate , 6:30 pm |
| 25 T.G.I. Social 4 :00 pm | 26 Canasta 11:00 am | 27 Men's Book Club 1:00 pm Pinochle 6:30 pm Photography Photo Share 10:30 am | 28 Kitchen Bridge 10:30 am | 29 Shop Austin 7:30 am | 30 | |

AUSTIN NEWCOMERS CLUB FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 INCOME AND EXPENSES

| | BUDGET 7/15-6/16 | YTD ACTUAL |
|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| INCOME | | |
| MEMBER DUES | \$16,100.00 | \$19,305.69 |
| LUNCHEON | 14,175.00 | 17,283.16 |
| TRANSFER FROM SAVINGS | 7,500.00 | 5,349.60 |
| REIMBURSEMENT FOR SPECIAL EVENTS | 1,500.00 | 1,500.00 |
| SPECIAL EVENTS HOLIDAY PARTY | | 9,569.53 |
| BOARD MEETING | | 174.36 |
| ANC OTHER EVENTS (Hello Austin Events) 50/50 | 540.00 | 3,645.79 584.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$39,815.00 | \$57,412.13 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| LUNCHEON (food,tax,tip) | \$11,340.00 | \$14,475.68 |
| PROGRAM | 400.00 | 231.60 |
| SPEAKERS | 280.00 | 157.56 |
| LUNCHEON TOTAL EXPENSE | \$12,020.00 | \$14,864.84 |
| NEWSLETTER PRINTING | \$11,000.00 | \$12,039.67 |
| POSTAGE | 3,000.00 | 3,473.57 |
| WELCOME MAT TOTAL EXPENSE | \$14,000.00 | \$15,513.24 |
| ADMINISTRATION | | |
| LIABILITY INSURANCE | \$810.00 | \$806.00 |
| PRESIDENT DISCRE FUND | 1,000.00 | 984.05 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 52.00 | 127.80 |
| POSTAGE | | 132.92 |
| SCRAPBOOK | 200.00 | 475.11 |
| MEMBERSHIP SUPPLIES | 300.00 | 392.66 |
| MEETING OF THE BOARD | | 209.89 |
| OTHER ANC EVENTS (Hello Austin Events) | | 3,486.00 |
| OFFICE SUPPLIES | 100.00 | 0 |
| PRESIDENTS GIFT | 225.00 | 269.54 |
| WEB SUPPORT | 1,200.00 | 750.00 |
| P.O. BOX RENT | 128 | 130.00 |
| PUBLICITY/NEW WEB SITE | | 6,461.54 |
| PP LUNCHEON | | 0 |
| SPECIAL EVENTS | | 11,040.86 |
| INTEREST GROUP LUNCH COUPON | | 0 |
| TOTAL ADMINISTRATION EXPENSE | | \$25,266.37 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | \$55,644.45 |
| NET INCOME (PROFIT) | | \$1,767.68 |
| CHECKING BALANCE | | \$10,514.67 |
| SAVINGS BALANCE | | \$8,482.87 |

New Web Site set up
Pd. in 2014-15 for 15-16 event

*Standing Rule #7 under board of directors responsibilities states:
The Treasurer, at the end of the fiscal year, shall prepare a year-end statement and publish same in the September newsletter.*

By-Laws mailing
\$300 2014-15 Book

Holiday Party

Would you or someone you know like to join the Austin Newcomers Club, but don't have a computer? You can call me and I will enter all your information into the computer for you. Donna Withrow, 512-369-3563.

GO GREEN.... GO PAPERLESS

Sign up to get this newsletter via email.

Send an email to:

vpmembership@austinnewcomers.com

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



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING RESERVATION for Wednesday, Sept. 21st

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 Sept. 18th. Call (614) 361-4936 or luncheondirector@austinnewcomers.com

Postmark by
Sept. 16. Online
RSVP by Sept. 18

Welcome New Members

Carol Ahlgren
4201 Monterey Oaks #1120, 78749
512-468-6058

Mara Coleman
9916 Chukar Bend, 78758
512-923-5503

Pamela Craig

Pauline Dalli
832-512-7663

Jean-Marie and Christiane Delbar
1009 Timber Trail, 78613
512-203-9031

Judith Enright
2601 N Quinlan park Rd. #510,
78732
505-264-2067

Felissa Lashley
1104 Orchard Falls Dr.
Cedar Park, 78613
862-251-1001

Bernie and Denise Mayoff
7800 Southwest Parkway, Unit 213
78735
972-670-2099

Diana and Vinny O'Reilly
12800 Bivins Ct., 78732
516-524-1517

JoAnna Rollings
1509 W 40th, 78756
512-783-4760

Jim and Kathy Sepulveda
3503 Ogrin Cove, 78664
512-300-9620

Heidi and Richard Stelzner
5800 Courtyard Dr. #5, 78731
908-313-4543

Stace VanderStek
9226 Jollyville Rd. #164, 78759
512-971-5464



PO Box 163343
Austin TX 78716-3343

Welcome Mat Staff

Newsletter Editor *Cindy Fenton*
Proofreader *Sally DuBane*

Austin Newcomers Officers

President *Susi Spies*
President-Elect *Sangie Krishnan*
VP-Membership *Donna Withrow*
VP-Programs and Luncheons *Kathy Finley*
Laurie Gillig
Secretary *Paul Parrish*
Treasurer *Valerie Ojeman*
Interest Group Coordinator *Alison Seaman*
Newsletter Editor *Cindy Fenton*
Director of Communications and Publicity *Diane Gallagher*
Parliamentarian *Marj Lowe*

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 **Historian@[austinnewcomers.com](mailto:historian@austinnewcomers.com)**.