The Welcome Mat

Austin Newcomers Newsletter

January 2016 vol. LXVIII No. 7 www.AustinNewcomers.com



Wednesday, January 20, 2016 General Meeting, Luncheon, and Program



811 W. Live Oak Street

Price: \$25.00 (\$30.00 if reservation made late) Luncheon reservation form is on the inside back cover.

11:00 AMSocial12:00 PMLuncheon

The chef of the day will select the buffet menu which includes salad or soup, entrée, vegetable, rolls, dessert, iced tea and coffee.

FOR MEMBERS WITH DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, AN ALTERNATIVE MENU OPTION IS AVAILABLE— NOTICE IS REQUIRED WITH THE RSVP. MEMBER IS FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY MENU SUBSTITUTIONS MADE <u>AT</u> THE LUNCHEON.

Directions: From North on MoPac: Exit 5th/Cesar Chavez. Follow Cesar Chavez to Guadalupe. Turn right onto Guadalupe which becomes South 1st Street. At West Live Oak, turn right. Follow West Live Oak to 811 on your left. From South on MoPac: Exit Ben White east (Hwy 290). Exit left onto 1st Street. Go north past Oltorf, turn left onto West Live Oak. 811 is on the left. Sure, you could spend hours reading restaurant reviews, perusing Urban Spoon and asking your friends, but we guarantee hearing Andy's take on the Austin food scene will be lots more fun.



His five-year old company, Austin Eats, is the highly touted tour company that guides locals and out of town-ers alike to the "Quintessential Austin restaurants and food trucks"

Ranked the #1 Tour in Austin on Yelp and the "Top Food Tour" in Texas by Trip Advisor, Andy's 3-hour public tours give guests the chance to experience 4 to 5 local eateries via bus, van, bike, or foot.

Standard tours include: "Brunch, BBQ, and Brewery" tours, a "Best of Austin Food Trucks Tour", and a restaurant tour of South Congress Street. Private, personalized, and corporate tours can also be arranged.

Come hear Andy dish up the names and locations of Austin's best eateries. It'll be a delicious program, we promise you!

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ANC January Board Meeting Wednesday, January 6th

9:30 AM Social, 10:00 AM Meeting

- Where:Home of Donna Withrow12312 Palisades Parkway
- RSVP: Jan Jones jones6lp@gmail.com Donna Withrow withrow19@hotmail.com or RSVP on the website

Directions: Go to RR 620 and turn onto the main entrance of Steiner Ranch, which is Quinlan Park Road. Continue down Quinlan Park Road approximately 3.5 miles and turn left on Bella Mar Trail. At the roundabout, turn left on Palisades Parkway. Our house is the second on the left.

Ann Richards Play

"ANN" is coming to Austin! Hello Austin! is going to "Ann"!

"Ann, tough as nails. Funny as Hell." "Ann", a portrait of Ann Richards, the Legendary Governor of Texas. Starring, "Famous in this Role of Ann", is Holland Taylor.

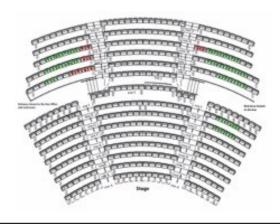
Come join us on April 13th, 2016 at the Zach Theatre. The show is at 7:30 PM with a post performance discussion following the production.

I have reserved some DISCOUNTED tickets for this very popular show. First come, first serve for the tickets. It will sell out. Your check to me buys your tickets.

The 40 reserved green dots are \$51.00 The 10 reserved red dots are \$66.00. Please RSVP ONLINE (see page 4) OR mail your check to Alison Seeman at 10337 Salida Drive, Austin, TX 78749. Parking is \$7.00 now for non-subscribers. Should be another great evening in Austin, Texas with friends. Join us.

Alison Seaman

alisonseaman@yahoo.com





Letter from the President

As I write this, I am basking in the glow of a magnificent evening last night with 168 of our Newcomer friends at the Austin Club to ring in the holidays in style. The ladies donned their elegant attire and I must say, I even complimented some very dapper and handsome men on their GQ look! As one member put it, "I heard so many terrific remarks from long time members, new members and some soon to be members. It's easy to see why guests were having a joy filled time, especially since so many stayed until the last dance." And dance we did!!! The All Night's proved to be the incredible band they are reputed to be. We all enjoyed rockin' and rollin' well into the night with quite a few Newcomer's who have "the rhythm goin' on"! Another member commented "I saw many people I had never seen before and many others I had not seen in a long time. Clearly, Newcomer's was ready and waiting for just this event."

Well, we on the Party Committee could receive no greater compliments than these. Let me once again thank each and every one of them. This idea was conceived by our past President, Diane Gallagher, who is a member of the Austin Club and our sponsor. Donna Dauenhauer and I co-chaired the committee and thankfully, more Donna than me. In true Donna style, she made sure EVERY t was crossed and every i dotted and kept us all on track right down to the last detail. She negotiated our contracts like a pro, gracefully solving any hiccups that arose. We were supported by Peggy Sklar who handled our publicity beautifully, Donna Withrow who took care of registration and finances and designed the invitations with Cindy Johnson. We had the incredible good fortune to have our art on that invitation and other publicity done by our very own Carol Sue Witt, a long time member and contributor/organizer of our Craft Fair. Annie Prasad helped with door prizes and organization, Roni Seemann helped with planning, organization, and provided door prizes which we all enjoyed. (See next paragraph.) Diane Gallagher was there steadily guiding the ship as she always does with the goal of providing us all with amazing opportunities such as these to nurture friendships and create memories together. Please thank all of them when you see them. It was a huge endeavor and we did it with joy in our hearts.

We want to also thank the donors of our door prizes. Barbara had a wonderful poster displaying their names as you checked in but we want to publicly thank them and encourage you to patronize the businesses. Our guests enjoyed taking home a gift basket from Con Olio where you can taste and learn about the best olive oils and vinegars in Jeff's 3 stores here in town. A neighbor of theirs at the Arboretum is Savory and Spice, who graciously contributed two samplings of spices. Other generous donors we hope you will try were the Dart Bowl, P Terry, Yoga Yoga, Texas Rowing Center, Moonshine Bar & Grill, San Louis Spirits, The Grove Bar and Kitchen (Bee Cave Rd.), and Jack Allen's restaurant. We also received donations from Roni & Bob Seemann, Carol Sue Witt, and Annie Prasad & Anand Kruttiventi. Thank you, thank you, thank you ALL!

Other important club news is the formation of our Nominating Committee who will soon be soliciting members for our next Board of Directors. Please contact me with any suggestions or better yet to **VOLUNTEER** for a position. We love having new members step up and participate, after all we are a Newcomer's Club!

Lastly, we thank Diane Gallagher and her committee for our incredible new website! Thank you for your patience as we all learn how to use it. To help us all along, look forward to a **TIP OF THE MONTH** in future Welcome Mats, the first of which is included in this issue.

Cheers to another wonderful year here at Austin Newcomer's,

Jan

Website Tip of the Month – The Online Calendar

The New ANC website features an online **Calendar** that can be viewed in two different ways: (1) a typical looking monthly calendar where you can click on the events of the day of the month, (2) a scrolling list of days / dates that feature the events that are taking place on that day. The scrolling version is especially nice to see on smaller screens like readers and smart phones. Both types are found on the Home Page of the Website by clicking on **News and Events** and then **Calendar**.

Once you are there, if you click on an event you will find that you can learn more details about that event, get directions to the event if it isn't at someone's personal home and register for the event online.

If you are logged in, the registration information will auto-fill for you. And it will be sent to the Interest Group Chair for that particular event.

If there is a payment involved, you can pay online with a credit card or there will be directions on where to mail in your payment.

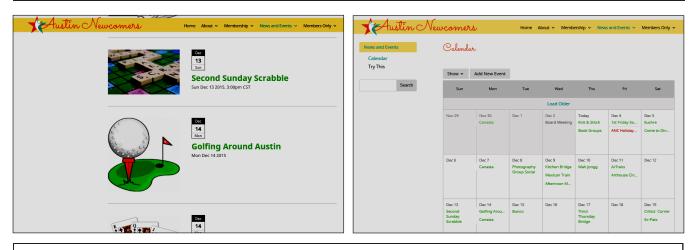
Once you click on the registration, all of your information is immediately emailed to the Chairperson.

An added feature is that the Calendar is linked to the Weekly Bulletin.

When you receive your email, click on any event within the **Weekly Bulletin** email and you will be taken directly to that event on the **Website Calendar**.

For those of you with two-member primary accounts, please be careful with auto-fill. If only one of you are attending, go back and correct the auto-fill so that it reflects that only one of you are registering for that event.

We encourage you to register for events online. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask at **webmaster@austinnewcomers.com** or **publicity@austinnewcomers.com**



RSVP for Interest Group Events

Many of the write-ups for interest group events in the Welcome Mat say to RSVP (or to register) for the event online. To do this go to the <u>Austin Newcomers Club website</u> and click on Meet. Learn. Explore. Grow., under "News and Events" pick calendar, find the event and click on it. There will be a registration button.

Important: Weekly Bulletins

Be sure to read the Weekly Bulletins in your inbox for the most up-to-date information about Interest Groups. Changes in time or venue, or other reminders, will be in these bulletins. Check them out!

Book Groups: Thursday, January 28th

Social:10:00 AMDiscussion:10:30 AMBook:"The Children's Crusade" by Anne Packer

Upcoming Books:

February - "Under the Wide and Starry Sky" by Nancy Horan

March - "Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah

April - "A God in Ruins" by Kate Atkinson

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:

> Judy Moore Judya.moore@gmail.com 512-697-8251

Bluebonnet Group

Home of Pat Barton 4 Mayleaf Cove, Lakeway

Discussion Facilitator: TBA

RSVP: Pat Barton pbarton1223@yahoo.com 512-436-8156

Chairs: Judy Moore judya.moore@gmail.com Mary Kevorkian mkevorkian99@gmail.com

Directions:

Take Bee Cave Road west off 360. Go about 9 miles to right on hwy. 71. Right on Hwy. 620. Go about 4 miles to left on Lohman's Crossing. Pass Tuscan Village on left, Take the next left into The Hills. Go through the gate and take immediate left onto Cottondale, then left on Hills Drive to Mayleaf Cove on left. The sign for Mayleaf is hard to see. It is the next turn left after Sunview.

Yellow Rose Group

Home of Susan Stein 8230 Spicewood Springs Rd., #3

Discussion Facilitator: Shirlie Konopka

RSVP: Susan Stein

steinsusan365@gmail.com

512-336-7972

Chairs: Shirlie Konopka shirlkono@aol.com Susan Stein steinsusan365@gmail.com

Directions:

From Hwy.183 N, take the Spicewood Springs Rd/McNeil exit and go west onto Spicewood Springs Rd. After the light at Yaupon, count four streets on the left and then take the u-turn left at Bintliff. You are turning back onto Spicewood Springs Rd; take the first right onto the horseshoe drive at 8230. We are #3 along that drive.

Indian Paintbrush Group

Home of

Sherrie Hale 9608 Big View Dr

Discussion Facilitator: Jayne Polly

RSVP: Sherrie Hale

Sherrie3831@att.net 512-372-9971

Chairs: Jackie Neuman

Janeuman44@gmail.com

Susan Nichols

Sunichols222@gmail.com

Directions:

From 360 turn onto 2222 going West. Go 4.4 miles. Turn left onto River Place Blvd at the traffic light. Go approximately 2 miles.

(You will pass RP Country Club). River Place Blvd. comes to a T. Turn left at stop sign onto Big View Dr. 9608 Big View Dr. is on your right.



movies and Mah Jongg

Arthouse Cinema North Friday, January 8th at 7:30 PM \$1.00/person



Arthouse Cinema North chooses an independent or art-house film or any other 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 the film for the following month.

We welcome new members. If you enjoy animated discussion, join us by sending your name, phone number and address to:

Kim Smith tokimsmith@austin.rr.com

Kim 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.

Arthouse Cinema South Friday, January 8th at 7:30 PM \$1.00/person

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.

To join, please send your name, phone number and email address to:

Roger Seaman

rogerseafarer@yahoo.com

RSVP and direction information will be emailed to members one week before the event.

Critics' Corner Friday, January 8th at 6:30 PM Note the time change.

Location, RSVP, and Directions - Members receive information about the film and meeting place, and RSVP through Evite, which is sent out on the Wednesday following the meeting.

RSVP - (see above)

Directions - (see above)

The group operates as follows: At our monthly meeting, we vote on the film to be viewed, and then go to see the movie on our own. The following month, we get together for a lively discussion. Refreshments are provided by our hosts and cohosts. Everyone comes prepared for fun and movie suggestions for the following month.

If you would like to join Critics' Corner, or are a member who is not receiving the monthly Evite, send your name and email address to:

Bobbi and Hector Barrio

bobbibarrio@gmail.com

Mah Jongg

Thursday, January 14th Thursday, January 28th

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

1:00 PM to 4:00 PM Café Express 3418 N. 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 <u>new location</u> for our games and players are invited to come early for lunch if desired.

If you would like to join us, please **RSVP** to:

Ruth Ann Plotkin 512-582-0957 ruthann.plotkin@gmail.com

Men's Book Group

Tuesday, January 26th 1:00 PM Place: Home of Hector Barrio

Book to be discussed: Book to be discussed: "Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End" by Atul Gawande.

Dr. Gawande, a practicing surgeon, addresses his profession's ultimate limitation, arguing that quality of lifeis the desired goal for patients and families. He offers examples of freer, more socially fulfilling models for assisting the infirm and dependent elderly, and he explores the varieties of hospice care to demonstrate that a person's last weeks or months may be

rich and dignified. Full of eye-opening research and riveting storytelling, Being mortal asserts that medicine can comfort and enhance our experience even to the end, providing not only a good life but also a good end.

Directions: from the south, take Mopac North and exit on 2222. Turn left onto 2222 and follow it until it crosses Mesa. Turn right onto Mesa and then turn left at the first street, Cross Valley, follow Cross Valley which turns into Mount Bonnell, turn right on Hickory Hollow. Please park in the middle of the cul de sac. From the North: take Mopac south, exit on 2222 and follow directions as above.

Hector Barrio, Chair

hebate@gmail.com 512-633-2103

Knit and Stitch

Thursday, January 7th 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon Home of: Susan Stein 8230 Spicewood Springs Rd., #3

RSVP: 512-336-7972 Steinsusan365@gmail.com

We meet the first Thursday of the month to talk, knit, crochet, quilt, needlepoint and mend. Bring your handiwork and join us!

Chair: Elaine Doege 512-751-2674

Directions: On 183, exit at Spicewood Springs/ McNeil Road exit and go west onto Spicewood Springs Rd. (You'll drive about 2 mi). After the light at Yaupon, count 4 streets on the left and you will be at a u-turn. Take the u-turn left and then turn right onto the horseshoe drive. We are a group of 16 houses, all 8230, and we are #3.

From the south: drive north on 360 and after the light at Lakewood Dr. look for the next light, Spice-wood Springs Rd. Turn left and drive to the road's end, a T intersection, then turn right. Drive up the hill, past the light and just after Bintliff, turn right into the horseshoe drive and follow above.

GOGREEN

GOPAPERLESS

Sign up to get this newsletter in your Inbox

Send an email to:

vpmembership@austinnewcomers.com

Afternoon Mystery Book Group

Wednesday, January 13th

1:00 PM

Book: "The Silkworm" by Robert Galbraith (aka J.K. Rowling)

Discussion leader: Susan Nichols

Host: Dianne Killough 1600 Toomey

RSVP: Dianne2345@gmail.com

The Afternoon Mystery Book Group meets at 1:00 PM the second Wednesday of each month, September through May. Members take turns hosting and leading book discussions. This year's list, which is based on member selections and includes both current and classic mysteries from a variety of genres, is listed on the Austin Newcomers website under Interest Groups / Afternoon Mystery Book Group.

For further information about the group, call Bronwyn Bowen at 325-370-5220 or email her at **bbowen60@gmail.com**.

Directions: Turn west from S. Lamar south of the river onto Toomey and drive about 1/2 mile. You will see a parking entrance on the left and a sign for Barton Place. Park in the paid spaces on the right side of Toomey and walk across to the stairs. I will send the gate code to get into the courtyard when I receive your RSVP.

February book: "The English Girl" by Daniel Silva

T.G.I.Social **Photography Group** Welcome photographers! The photography interest **Thank Goodness It's Social!** group meets twice a month, once for a photo shoot T.G.I.Social is a time to kick back to meet and con-"usually" on the second Tuesday and again on the nect with friends old and new. fourth Tuesday for a photo share. Contact co-chairs Saturday, January 9th listed below to be added to the distribution list. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM PHOTO SHOOT Home of: Terry and Donna Dauenhauer Saturday, January 9th 11813 Musket Rim J. Lorraine Ghost Town Bring: Hearty appetizers and beverages of your Manor, Texas choice to share: beer, soft drinks, wine, tea, lemon-**11:00 AM** Meet at J. Lorraine Ghost Town for lunch ade, etc. Singles bring beverage or appetizers. Cou-12:00 PM Wander around and take fantastic picples bring both. tures RSVP essential for gate attendant to allow access. This photo shoot is weather permitting. Please be **RSVP** to both: sure you're on the Newcomers Photography e-mail Donna Dauenhauer list if you'd like to participate. Specific details will donnadau@hotmail.com be e-mailed on or about January 5th. 512-852-9535 and **RSVP:** Linda Avitt **Charlotte Slack** 512-468-1542 cbs200@gmail.com biketrash@grandecom.net 979-255-1680 PHOTO SHARE SESSION Tuesday, January 26th Get a head start on February! Send up to 6 photos to Kathy Jones at Saturday, February 6th at the home of Terry and kajones510@gmail.com. She will compile a show to project photos on a screen for other members to en-Alyce Richardson joy and to offer ideas. 8320 Chalk Knoll Drive Location: Precision Camera store's classroom at 2438 RSVP to Alyce Richardson W. Anderson Lane in the West Anderson Plaza aluciarichardson@gmail.com **Time:**10:30 AM socializing —11:00 AM share photos 512-567-6413 Optional lunch afterwards at a nearby restaurant. Also RSVP to Charlotte (see above) **RSVP:** Kathy Jones 512-241-1663 Saturday, April 2 hosted by Chuck and Leslie Ege kajones510@gmail.com Saturday, May 14 hosted by Paul and Linda Parrish **Mexican Train**

Wednesday, January 13th 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM Where: Serrano's 5030 Highway 290 West www.serranostx.com

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 11:00 AM, break for lunch, and end by 2:00 PM. Good food/good fun!!!

RSVP: Jane Jenkins 510-289-4650 jane7491jenkins@gmail.com **Directions**: Located at the intersections of Highway 71/290, Southwest Freeway and MoPac/Route 1 next to Best Buy, around the shopping center corner from Spec's Liquor.

From East 71/290 and Congress, travel west on Ben White/71/290 to the Brodie Lane exit. Continue past Spec's and around the curve going toward Route 1/ Mopac North. Serrano's will be on the right near Best Buy.

From the North: take Southwest Freeway Exit and go east. As you cross under Route 1/Mopac you will turn left on the service road and then turn right into the shopping center. Serrano's is next to Best Buy

From the South: exit MoPac/Route 1 before the 71/290 flyover and stay on the frontage road going north until you cross under 71/290. See above.

Third Thursday Bridge

Thursday, January 21st 9:45 AM Social Time 10:00 AM Play begins promptly

IHOP S. MOPAC 1101 S. Mopac Expressway

Please note new venue!

Cost: now <u>\$2.00</u>

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:

Becky Pardue 512-288-2024 Ioblolly97@att.net

Chair: Hansa Nasta 512-328-1886 hnasta@yahoo.com

<u>Directions</u>: From Loop 360 take Mopac North. Take the RollingWood/BeeCave exit. IHOP is on the right side after the Bee Cave road traffic light.

Kitchen Bridge

Wednesday, January 27th 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM Home of: Felicia Morrison 7608-A Watson

RSVP: Felicia Morrison 512-619-0100

feliciamorrison@hotmail.com

Reservations may be made no earlier than the first of the month of the event. The first eight callers will be able to play. Callers after that will be placed on a sub list.

Join us for some relaxed hands of bridge. Bring your own lunch; beverages provided.

Chair: Mimi Rhea 512-491-0744 eerhea@att.net

Euchre

Saturday, January 23rd

7:00 PM

Enthusiastic players comprise the still-growing **Euchre interest group.** The game is quick and easy to learn but with enough challenge to be interesting. Come to learn or continue having fun with this great card game.

We will meet January 23rd in Lago Vista (not really all that far) at 7:00 PM. E-mail Jerry at:

gnilsson5900@gmail.com

for directions and to reserve your spot.

Jerry and Susan Nilsson-Weiskott



Lots of fun

Bridge and more!

Daytime Buddy Bridge

Partners meet monthly from <u>Sep-</u> <u>tember through May</u> in participant's homes.

Players are assigned to differing opponents each month, but dates and times are determined by the players. This is a great way to get to know other members and visit different areas of Austin. Interested bridge players may contact either chairperson for additional information.

Ethel Tarleton	512-243-6651
Betty Grisamore	512-288-8823

First Friday Social Bridge

Friday, January 8th*

Social: 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM **Play:** 7:00 PM to 9:45 PM

Lamar Senior Activity Center 2874 Shoal Creek Avenue

Cost: \$5.00 per person

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

RSVP: Ed and Edna Stokes 512-280-4117 edward@stokes.biz

Last Months Winners: First Place: Jeff Dryjanski -2720 pts Second Place: Ed Stokes-2550 Third Place: Sarah Burns-2470

Directions: The Lamar Senior Activity Center is located off Lamar at 29th Street on Shoal Crest Avenue.

*Note: We will meet on the second Friday in January because the Senior Centers are closed on January 1st.

Bunco

Tuesday, January 19th 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM Home of :



Jackie Morris Hendrickson

Current Bunco members RSVP to Jackie at 512-441-2046 jacqueline_morris@usa.com

Directions will be provided when you respond.

Newcomers are invited to contact Donna Burgess if you are interested in joining the group as a regular player or a substitute.

Chair: Donna Burgess 512-346-5443 dlburgess@austin.rr.com

Canasta

Mondays, January 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Location: Chinatown Restaurant Westwood Shopping Center 2712 Bee Cave Road

Our Canasta group meets every Monday at Chinatown to play Hand and Foot Canasta. We play a few hands and break for lunch (order from the menu, separate checks) and continue to play afterward. It's very easy to learn - if you haven't played before, just come and we'll teach you.

New players contribute \$15.00 toward cards and supplies.

RSVP to Dottie Thoms

dottie.thoms@gmail.com

512-820-5980

GAMES

Ladies Poker Night

Thursday, January 28th

6:30 PM: Social/Appetizer

7:00 PM: The Game Begins

Cost: \$5.00 per person

Hostess: Sharon Lindemann 6105 Tasajillo Trail cell: 512-773-2686

RSVP: 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.

Directions will be given at time of RSVP.

Questions: Contact: In 51

Inge Eichberg 512-351-9807

Golfing around Austin



The Golfing around Austin Group uses a simple format. We pick a target date each month, usually the 2nd Monday.

For January, our date will be Monday, January 11th, weather permitting. Interested golfers should call or email about one week in advance, in this case by Sunday, January 3rd.

Marj Lowe will be continuing as interim chair. She will be arranging the course and tee times, and will advise participating players.

As noted before, it is useful to have a contact list (email and phone). If you have interest in the Golfing around Austin program and want to get on the roster, please contact:

Marj Lowe

512-372-9894

loweandlowe@ameritech.net

Second Sunday Scrabble

Sunday, January 10th 3:00 PM Hosted by: Sangie Krishnan 10420 Canyon Vista Way 512-785-8198

RSVP: by January 7th to sangiek@gmail.com or bhornaday@austin.rr.com

Directions will be provided if needed.



Hello Austin!!

Dear Newcomer Friends

Hello Austin! Is off to a great start. Below are some details of our events that have firm dates, followed by the list of our other planned activities for this year. Watch the Welcome Mat for information as it becomes available. If you are interested in participating in an event and/or want more information contact Hello Austin! Chairperson, Pattie Webster (512-924-9923 or **pattie@pattiewebster.com**). Watch our Weekly Bulletin Eblasts for revised event information and/or spontaneous activities hosted by the Group. We look forward to seeing you at Hello Austin!

Wonder in Wine - Discovering Portugal and Spain Wine Tasting Class, Saturday, January 23rd, 2016 at 4:00 PM. Duration 2 hours. – Theresa Green - FULL WITH WAIT LIST

Come join us for a private wine tasting class at Total Wine and More at 5601 Brodie Lane, Sunset Valley. We will have a private room for our wine tasting class. You will taste 8 wines and have some educational presentations during your tasting. Light cheese/bread/fruit trays will be served. **Cost \$20.00 per person.** Payment due the day of the event. Each attendee can pay separately at the register in the store. Maximum attendance is 35 attendees. **Wait List: theresagreen464@gmail.com**. Optional dinner "on your own" at a nearby restaurant. Two recommendations: BJ's Restaurant and Brew House at 5207 Brodie Lane, Sunset Valley or Longhorn Steakhouse at 4809 W Hwy 290, Sunset Valley. Optional lunch at BJ's Restaurant and Brew House, also in Sunset Valley at 5207 Brodie Lane.

Esther's Follies, Thursday, January 28th, 2016, 7:30 PM, Carol Witt

Ha! Ha! Guaranteed laughs are in store as Esther's Follies tries to warm up your funny bone on a chilly January night. They just might have some great material during a Presidential election year...so join us on Thursday, January 28th for the 8:00 PM show. (Please arrive by 7:30). Location: Esther's Follies Theater 525 E 6th Street in Austin. To RSVP: Register ONLINE (see page 4) or call Carol Witt then confirm with Esther's box office at 512-320-0198 to pay with your credit card. 20 seats are reserved under Austin Newcomers Club but we can add to this if reservations are made early. RSVP by January 14th to Carol Witt at **carolsuewitt@gmail.com** or 972-529-0549.

Hey! Lets Go Bowling....Saturday, January 30th, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Diane & Carl Gallagher

We are going to have a fabulous time at Dart Bowl-Voted best bowling alley by Austin Chronicle readers for 15 years straight. Home of the famous Dart Bowl Cafe where they serve great enchiladas! Cost: \$20 per person! This includes 2 hours of bowling and shoes! Register ONLINE (see page 4) Or by sending your check to Diane and Carl Gallagher, 6328 Clarion Drive, Austin, 78749. RSVPs due by Friday, January 22nd. Limited to 40 attendees.

Riverdance is coming to the Long Center Austin in February 18, 2016, 7:30 PM. Peggy Sklar & Pam Metcalfe

ANC has reserved 30 tickets for Thursday, February 18th. Tickets are \$46/person and limited to the first 30 responses. Don't miss your last chance to see the internationally acclaimed celebration of Irish music, song and dance. RSVP ONLINE (see page 4) or by sending your check to Peggy Sklar, 6006 Salton Dr., Austin, TX 78759. Questions, call Pam Metcalfe, 512-461-8746 or Peggy Sklar at **psklar1@gmail.com**. Show time is 7:30 PM; we can park in the garage at the Long Center and walk to Threadgill's for dinner. If you want to join us for dinner, please send a note with your check and we will reserve tables. Riverdance is amazing!!!!!!!

ANC is Goin' Country Dancing, Saturday, February 27, 2016 6:30-9:30 PM Diane & Carl Gallagher Put your dancing boots / shoes on and join us for a night of entertaining fun as former ANC members and award-winning Country dancers, Chuck and Sherry Steele lead us in an evening of Country dancing. We'll start with a Texas-themed appetizer buffet and enjoy a cash bar throughout the evening. If you love Country dancing or have never tried it before, we want you to join us for this night of fun and friendship. **\$20 per person**.

continued on next page

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Hello Austin!! (continued)

ANC is Goin' Country Dancing

Location: Great Hills Country Club, 5914 Lost Horizon Drive, Austin.

Register ONLINE at **www.austinnewcomers.com**, then go to website calendar OR by sending your check to Diane and Carl Gallagher, 6328 Clarion Drive, Austin, 78749. RSVPs due by Friday, February 19th. Limited to 60 attendees.

SXSW Four Seasons Hotel Ballroom, Thursday, March 17th at 7 AM. Charlotte Slack and Bea Wilson The South by Southwest Music Festival is one of the largest and most influential global music events of the year, taking place every March in Austin, Texas - the Live Music Capital of the World. http://www.sxsw.com/music/festival. Newcomers are often warned, "Don't go near downtown during SXSW. It's too crowded." Don't believe that! Here's your chance to experience a slice of SXSW in a lovely setting. KUT, the local PBS affiliate, hosts live broadcasts from the five-star luxury Four Seasons Hotel with parking in the hotel underground garage. Thursday, March 17th, 7:00 AM NOT a typo! 7:00 AM! Four Seasons Hotel Ballroom, 98 San Jacinto Blvd., Cost: \$10 for breakfast taco and unlimited coffee. RSVP ONLINE (see page 4) Or email Charlotte at cbs200@gmail.com or Bea at wilsonb4@aol.com.

UT Astronomy Night Viewing, April 6th at 8:00 PM – Roger Seaman and A. E. Martin

Every Wednesday night while UT is in session the astronomy department sponsors free public star parties on the top roof of Robert Lee Moore Hall. The 16 inch telescope was purchased from Group 128 in 1977. It was primarily used for teaching undergraduate astronomy majors the processes involved in modern astronomical observation and for graduate student projects. So in 1997, a grant proposal was approved by the National Science Foundation with matching funds from a generous private donor. In July 1998, the telescope was re-fit with a state-of-the-art mount and new clock drive. The telescope is controlled from a Dell desktop computer using control software called PC-TCS. Once you reach RLM, take the elevators to the 17th floor and then follow the signs to the stairs up to the telescope. Sunset is 7:53 pm on that day. It meets on top of the roof of Robert Lee Moore Hall, which is located at the southeast corner of Dean Keeton (formerly 26th street) and Speedway. All ages are welcome, but we ask that younger children be under adult supervision at all times. RSVP ONLINE (see page 4) OR Roger Seaman at **rogerseafarer@yahoo.com** or A.E. Martin at **aemartin@austin.rr.com**.

Jazz with the Austin Traditional Jazz Society, Sunday, April 10th, 1:00-5:00 PM, Glynda Eschle

Tommy Griffith Jazz Band will be the band performing on April 10th at the Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research Blvd (US 183 at Anderson Square). The purpose of the Austin Traditional Jazz Society, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization is to encourage the performance, promotion, preservation and perpetuation of traditional jazz music in Central Texas. Cap City Comedy Club is gracious to let the nonprofit organization use their facility. Doors open at 1:00 PM and the band will begin playing at 2:00. You are encouraged to order from the menu which includes includes entrees, appetizers, beer and wine. The food is good and reasonably priced. Each person will order and pay for their own food. There is an area set



aside for those who enjoy dancing. Special price for groups has been made; each member of Austin Hello will pay \$8.00. Members will pay at the entrance door. Glynda Eschle is chair for this event. Please RSVP ONLINE (see page 4) OR to Glynda at **glynda.eschle@sbcglobal.net** so she can arrange to have a section reserved for our group. There will be no limit on the number of people who can attend. Also, the kitchen staff has requested an attendance count so they will have plenty of food (above the usual number attending).

FUTURE EVENTS:

- Antonelli's Cheese and Social Hour Pairing (March 5th, 2016) Jan Jones and Cindy Johnson
- HELLO AUSTIN PLANNING PARTY (May 22nd, 2016) Pattie Webster and David Schieck
- Con' Olio Oils and Vinegars Tour and Tasting Diane Gallagher and Cindy Johnson
- Ballgame (UT Baseball May 2016) Theresa Green

EVENT COORDINATOR NEEDED FOR:

Lake Travis Boating Adventure

TRY THIS - in January

January Activities in and around Austin

Polar Bear Splash – January 1st – Barton Springs Pool, 2101 Barton Springs Road. Admission is free. Kick off the New Year by taking the plunge into the 68-70 degree water at Barton Springs Pool. **www.sosalliance.org**

First Thursday – January 7 – South Congress Ave. This monthly event happens up and down South Congress and features live music and local vendors. **www.firstthursday.info**

18th Annual Austin Home and Garden Show – January 15-17, Austin Convention Center, 500 East Cesar Chavez St. This is the place to find everything you need for your home or garden. **www.showtechnology.com**

** Please email your ideas to **donnadau@hotmail.com** with "Try This" in the subject line.

Day Trippers-Visit to Cuero in February

Tuesday, February 16th

Twan is planning a trip to Cuero, Texas for the Cowboy Museum, Wagner Hardware, Rendezvous Lady's Wear and Full of Pep unique store and lunch at the Eagle Ford Cafe More details to follow in the February Welcome Mat.

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

Ex-Pats

Date: Saturday, January 16th Time: 5:00 PM

Home of: Roz Stephenson 4101 Gandera Bend .

RSVP: rozstephenson5@aol.com 512-695-1083

Chair: Sara Pavliscak 512-970-7460 sarapavliscak@hotmail.com

Directions:

From Highway 360, take Bee Cave Rd. (2244) West for 7.2 miles. Then take a right turn onto Bee Cave Parkway for 2.1 miles (past FM 620). After taking a right at the Ladera subdivision sign (ie Tordera Dr.), at the circle/round-about continue straight to stay on Tordera Dr. The 1st right is Gandara Bend. Follow Gandera Bend to number 4101. The house is on the right.

From FM 620 going towards Bee Cave, turn right on Ladera. Continue past Home Depot and Target and up the hill to the roundabout. Go right at the roundabout, and then take the 1st right onto Gandara bend.

New Members Welcome Event

Sunday, January 17th

3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Home of: Annie Prasad and Anand Kruttiventi 4621 Twin Valley Drive

Bring your favorite dessert or appetizer to share with other Newcomer members. As well as making new friends, you will find out about the many interest groups.

RSVP:

memberservices@austinnewcomers.com

OR

Karen Kirmis & Annie Prasad

kkirmis@gmail.com; aaaprasad@hotmail.com

701-570-5472; or leave a message at 512-712-5526

Directions: Take Northland Dr/RM 2222 exit from MoPac N. and turn left onto RM 2222. About a mile on this road, turn right onto Mesa Dr., 1st left onto Cross Valley Run, 2nd right onto Mountain Villa Dr; 0.5 miles up the road, turn left onto Twin Valley Dr. 4621 will be on your left with a sloping downward driveway. Space for about 8 cars on the driveway. Extra parking available on the street.

Page 14	January 2016
Happy Hour	Come to Dinner - Bring a Plate
	Saturday, January 23rd at 7:00 PM
Tuesday, January 19th (the 3rd Tuesday) 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Location: The home of Roz Stephenson and possibly another location
Chez Zee	
5406 Balcones Dr.	Directions: Will be given when you RSVP
RSVP: Bobbi Barrio	This group of single women meet once a month for dinner at the home of a fellow member.
bobbibarrio@gmail.com Come join old friends and new for Happy Hour at Chez Zee featuring specially priced hors d'oeuvres, cocktails and beer.	Our hostess plans the menu and distributes recipes to the guests. Since most members have limited room for seating, not all of our members are able to attend each month. On months when we have more than one host, we are able to accommodate more guests.
French Conversation	Our aim is to get together for an evening of good food and friendship.
Wednesday, January 13th (2nd Wednesday) 12:30 PM Location: 5525 City Park Rd. #6 RSVP: ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY Francine Webb 512-569-3757 francinewebb@me.com	If you wish to join us or would like further infor- mation call or email Iris 512-351-8569 irisgroten@gmail.com If you wish to attend the January 23rd dinner RSVP to Iris by January 13.
Sujet: "Le grand Fou rire"!	
Tell us what made you really laugh one day or a real funny story that happened to you or made you	Spanish Conversation Bienvenidos
crack up (a short story preferably)!	Monday, January 18th at 10:00 AM
Directions: From 360 (Capitol of Texas Hwy) take	La Madeleine Restaurant
the 2222 Exit and go West. (Going South on 360, exit to your right. Going North on 360, take the	Westlake Hills Shopping Center
2222 Exit and then turn left to go under 360). Go	Bee Cave Rd. (FM2244) and
along 2222 and take the first turn to the left at the	Capital of Texas Hwy South (Loop 360)
light onto City Park Rd. Keep going up the hill. Once you pass the large Castle like home to your left, slow down to enter a small gated commu-	Directions: From Capital of Texas (Loop 360) turn east on Bee Cave Rd., shopping center is on the right.
nity right after that on your left with a large foun- tain in the middle. Please park outside on the side	Topic: Whatever inspires you, as long as you speak in Spanish!
of the road. There is plenty of space and it is safe.	For information or to RSVP, contact:
Then, walk to the right of the large gate where a pedestrian gate will be open. I'll be immediately to your right #6. If you have a problem call the	Susana Surbek 512-382-6859 susana.surbek@hotmail.com
 You fight #0. If you have a problem call the cell phone #. Hostesses: Call Francine at the cell phone # above to open the gate if you have to bring things inside. Thank you much! 	A todos aquellos que les gusta practicar el español, se los invita cordialmente a participar de nuestras reuniones. En estas reuniones gozamos de una taza de café, compartimos información y hablamos de muchos temas de interés comun.

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Shop Austin!

Trader Joe's Tour and Tasting - Get Ready for the Super Bowl and Other Parties!

Date: Wednesday, January 27th

Time: Noon - 1:30 PM

Where: Trader Joe's 2805 Bee Cave Rd.

Cost: FREE

Believe it or not, Trader Joe's started in 1958 as Pronto Markets. And in 1967, their founder, Trader Joe decided to change their name! They don't have gimmicks or funky savings cards but they do buy direct from suppliers whenever possible and then pass the savings on

to you. We'll tour the store, learn more about their history and philosophy and then they'll treat us to a tasting for your Super Bowl party planning. Meet at the Store.

Please RSVP by registering online or email Diane Gallagher at cd_gallagher28@hotmail.com

ArTreks

The Nazi Olympics: Berlin 1936

What: A traveling exhibition provided by The University of Texas at Austin and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum

Date: Friday, January 22nd

Time: 11:00 AM

Cost: Free (except for parking)

Location: H.J. Lutcher Stark Center for Physical Culture and Sports at the Darrell K. Royal Texas Memorial Stadium, 405 E. 23rd Street, Austin, TX, on the UT campus

RSVP: arTreks@austinnewcomers.com

Directions:

- Take exit 235B, Manor Road exit
- Merge into the service road to prepare to go west on Manor Rd
- Turn onto Manor Road going west.
- Manor becomes Clyde Littlefield Dr.

Stay on Clyde Littlefield; look for the garage entrance to the left.

From Manor Garage

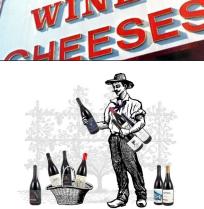
• Exit the garage and cross the street (Robert Dedman Dr) to the stadium

• Turn to the right and walk to the north end of the stadium.

• Turn to the left and walk to the main entrance of the North End Zone building. Enter the NEZ building and immediately turn left to the elevator lobby. Take the elevator to the 5th floor.



From I-35 South or I-35 North:



Hearty Hikers

Tuesday, January 12th

Festival Beach and Boardwalk (E. Rendon, Sr. Festival Beach)- part of the Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike Trail (Town Lake Trail)

10:00 AM – meet at picnic table just east of IH 35 bridge in Festival Beach Park

Cost: Free

Optional Lunch: Joe's Crab Shack (seafood and non-seafood items on the menu) 600 E Riverside Dr, Austin 78704 512-441-1010

What to Bring: Plenty of water, hat, sunscreen, sturdy shoes, and a hiking stick if you want. Hikes are usually around 4 miles long and last about 2 hours.

The Ann and Roy Butler Trail, aka Town Lake Trail, is a meandering trail along Lady Bird Lake in the heart of Austin. We will be hiking the east end of the trail along the northern part of the lake crossing over the dam, continuing along the south side of the lake on the newly finished boardwalk. We will complete the loop by crossing the walking bridge over IH 35. This part of the trail has less biking and hiking traffic and is quite scenic. Herons, egrets, cormorants, turtles, and other wildlife can be seen along the lakefront. The trail level is easy. It is relatively flat and covered with crushed gravel.

Please RSVP with: name and cell phone number; if you would like to carpool from the north; if you will be joining us for lunch.

Beth Holcomb	and	Dorothy Docherty
Bethholcomb7@gmai	dotinsg@hotmail.com	
908-963-9731		512-351-6724

Directions for carpool:

We will meet at 9:00 AM sharp at the parking area by Newk's Resturant in the Arboretum.

Parking is under the IH 35 Bridge over Town Lake. This is on the west end of Festival Beach Park. (Look up the intersection of East Ave. and Nash Hernandez Senior Rd.) See more detailed directions below.

Directions to Festival Beach Park:

From the north: Take MoPac (Loop 1) south. Take the 5th St./ Cesar Chavez St exit, continuing onto W Cesar Chavez St. In about 2 miles, just past Red River St., turn right onto the IH 35 Frontage Rd. Continue straight onto East Ave. that brings you under the IH 35 Bridge. You can park in the lot under the bridge on the right or just past the bridge there is parking on East Ave.

From the south: Take IH 35 north getting off onto the Frontage Rd. at exit 233 before going over Town Lake. Cross over the Town Lake Bridge and take the first possible right onto Flores St. Make a quick right onto Waller St. At the stop sign take a left onto Nash Hernandez, Sr. Rd. then quick right onto East Ave. The parking lot is under the IH 35 Bridge.

This is a great hike to start off the New Year!

Happy Trails

Saturday, January 16th - 9:00 AM

Ladybird Lake Boardwalk/Lakeshore Point

Canine Compatibility: Leashed dogs permitted

Bring: water, sunscreen, sturdy shoes, hat, dress for the weather

RSVP: with name and contact phone number to:

Donna Dauenhauer - 512-584-5834 (cell) 512-852-9535 (home)

Let's celebrate the New Year with a leisurely walk along Ladybird Lake. We will take the new Boardwalk Trail from Lakeshore Point to the Austin American Statesman property for an approximate 3-mile round trip walk – about one hour. We will traverse a portion of the 7,100 ft. project. that runs from east of Congress Avenue to International Shores Park east of Interstate 35. Bring your cameras for this waterfront promenade, and capture some gorgeous skyline views of Austin. After our walk, feel free to explore more of the city on your own.

Directions: From I-35 take the Riverside exit and go east. Take a left at Lakeshore Blvd. and park along side the street. We will meet at the restrooms (green buildings) on the left at Lakeshore Point.

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NEW MEMBERS					
700 Ze Austin, 512-57 wendy moved Sandra 11504 Austin, sladdty 512-25	Vendy and Rick Jones D0 Zen Gardens Terrace ustin, TX 78732 12-573-9444 eendybjones@att.net noved from Kentucky andra Ladd 1504 Sweet Basil Court ustin, TX 78726-1820 addtx@swbell.net 12-250-9339 noved from Charlotte, NC		4932 F Round 612-71 sharor	n Ireland Fiore Trail Rock, TX 78665 10-9190 hireland09@gmail.com I from Santa Fe	
		HAPPY	JANUARY BIRTHDAY	S	
1/05 1/07 1/08 1/09 1/10 1/12 1/13 1/14 1/14 1/14 1/15 1/15 1/15 1/16 1/17	Michele Abriol Carl Gallagher Nancy Leeper Kirsten Henriksen Miles Everson Rebecca Douglass Debbi Highbarger Genevieve Antier Priscilla Gabbi Carol Hartman Bill Sofer Leslie Kotzur Fernando Torre Bruce Lande Shelley Smith	1/17 1/17 1/17 1/18 1/18 1/19 1/19 1/19 1/19 1/19 1/19	Francine Webb Patricia E Green Rex Esau Linda Buckingham George Speaks Nancy Bell Doreen Hyde Umberto Gabbi Stan Holcomb Lynn Jelinski Diane Cunningham Don Pugatch Sondy Burg Edith Hegedus Terry Smith	1/24 1/26 1/27 1/27 1/27 1/28 1/28 1/28 1/28 1/29 1/30 1/30 1/30 1/31	Robert Halperin Denese Davis Glynda Eschle Marianne Schmitz Richard Wilson Armenag Dekmezian Marni Roberson Valerie Ojeman Jo Ann Benton Ralph Schmitz Anita W Mapes Harvey Burg Randy Adams Philip J Kolman

Holiday Party





January 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 • 11:00 AM Canasta	5	6 • 9:30 AM Board Meeting	7 • 10:00 AM Knit & Stitch	8 • 6:30 PM 1st Friday Bridge • 6:30 PMCritics Corner • 7:30 PM Arthouse Cinemas North and South	9 • 11:00 AM Photo Shoot • 4:00 PM TGI So- cial
10 • 3:00 PM Scrab- ble	11 • Golf • 11:00 AM Canasta	12 • 10:00 AM Hearty Hikers	13 • 11:00 AM Mexican Train • 12:30 PM French Conversation • 1:00 PM Afternoon Mystery Book Club	14 • 1:00 PM Mah Jongg	15	16 • 9:00 AM Happy Trails • 5:00 PM Ex-Pats
17 • 3:00 PM New Member's Wel- come	18 • 10:00 AM Spanish Conversation • 11:00 AM Canasta •	19 • 10:30 AM Bunco • 4:00 PM Happy Hour	20 • 11:00 AM Monthly Meeting and Luncheon	21 • 9:45 AM Third Thursday Bridge	22 •11:00 AM ArTreks	23 • 4:00 PM Wine Tasting • 7:00 PM Euchre • 7:00 PM Come to Dinner
24/31	25 • 11:00 AM Canasta	26 • 10:30 AM Photo Share • 1:00 PM Men's Book Club	27 • 10:30 AM Kitchen Bridge • 12:00 Noon Shop Austin!	28 • 10:00 AM Book Groups • 1:00 PM Mah Jongg • 6:30 PM Ladies Poker • 7:30 PM Esther's Follies	29	30 • 6:00 PM Bowling

Take a Camera Along! Please take some pictures

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

wm.submissions@hotmail.com (Welcome Mat)

Webmaster@AustinNewcomers.com

January 2016	Page 19
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP	LUNCHEON RESERVATION ations deadline is Monday, January 18th)
for weathesday, January 20th (Reserve	ations deadline is Monday, January Tothy
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The Welcome Mat Austin Newcomers Club PO Box 163343 Austin TX 78716-3343

The Welcome Mat Staff

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Interest Group Coo	ordinator
	Alison Seaman
Newsletter Editor	Brandon Jones
Webmaster	David Schieck

Address Corrections or Changes?

Send an email to **vpmembership@austinnewcomers.com** or call 512-520-5911

Visit our website - www.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 <u>wm.submissions@hotmail.com</u>

Reminder:

Members may <u>not</u> make <u>commercial solicitations</u> at any meeting or activity, nor use our directory for any commercial solicitations. Thank you.