The Welcome Mat

Austin Newcomers Newsletter February 2016 vol. LXVIII No. 8 www.AustinNewcomers.com



Wednesday, February 17, 2016 General Meeting, Luncheon, and Program

NOTE THE NEW LOCATION!!!!

Chez Zee American Bistro 5406 Balcones Dr Austin, TX 78731 512-454-2666 Price: \$30

Reservations can be made **on line** or using the form on the inside of the back cover. All paper checks <u>MUST</u> be received by **Friday, February 12**th

11:00 AM Social 12:00 PM Lunch

Buffet Lunch

In the garden room

Dietary Restrictions must be noted with your luncheon Registration.

Directions: Take the 2222 (Northland) exit off of Mopac. Coming from the South turn left on 2222. Coming from the North turn right on 2222. Turn left on Balcones Dr.(first traffic signal). Chez Zee is immediately on your right. Complimentary Valet Parking.

Outsmarting the Bad Guys

If all the press about computer hacking and identity theft is keeping you up at night, Katie Stephens, our February luncheon speaker, can definitely help

She's the education program manager at UT's Center for Identity and is an expert on identity theft and cyber crimes. That makes her the perfect person to tell you exactly what you need to know to help protect your personal information and prevent the dreaded, "Identity Theft".



Katie holds an M.A. in Mathematics from UT Austin and oversees the development of innovative education solutions for identity management, security, and privacy issues for high-risk groups—this includes cyber workforce development projects with the state of Texas and BEAT THE THIEF, an original children's cyber safety and privacy education app with a classroom curriculum.

Don't be a victim! Come hear Katie's tips and advice, then ask all the questions you want about keeping all your personal information safe and private. Want to know exactly how "secure" all those internet websites everybody's ordering from nowadays really are? Ask! Want to know if it's better to use a debit card or a credit card? Ask that, too! We all share the same concerns. Come voice yours and learn all the best practices for keeping what's yours, YOURS—your identify!

Page 2 February 2016

Interest Groups and EventsPage

Afternoon Mystery Book Group 7
Ann Richards Play 2
Arthouse Cinema North 6
Arthouse Cinema South 6
<u>ArTreks</u>
Birthdays 17
Board Meeting2
Book Groups5
Bridge Groups9
<u>Bunco</u> 9
<u>Calendar</u>
<u>Canasta</u> 10
Come to Dinner, Bring a Plate 14
<u>Critics' Corner</u> 6
<u>Day Trippers</u> 13
<u>Euchre</u> 9
<u>Ex-Pats</u>
French Conversation 14
Friends Connection
Golfing Around Austin 10
<u>Happy Hour</u> 14
Happy Trails16
Hearty Hikers16
<u>Hello Austin</u> 11&12
Knit & Stitch 7
Ladies Poker 10
Mah Jongg6
Men's Book Group7
Mexican Train 8
New Members
Photography8
President's Letter3
<u>Scrabble</u> 10
<u>Shop Austin!</u>
Spanish Conversation14
TGISocial8
<u>Try This</u>
Website Tip4

ANC February Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 3rd

9:30 AM Social, 10:00 AM Meeting

Where: Home of Mary Pat Bolton

6008 York Bridge Circle

RSVP: Jan Jones jones6lp@gmail.com

Mary Pat Bolton marypatbolton@icloud.com

or RSVP on the website

Directions: Heading south on MoPac, take the Davis exit (the exit after William Cannon Dr.). Turn right on Davis and continue to the first signal at Beckett St. Turn left on Beckett and watch for a sign on the right marking entrance to Park Place subdivision (about .4 mile, just before Slaughter Lane intersection). Enter Park Place subdivision by turning right onto Batak Lane. From Batak Lane, take an immediate left on York Bridge Circle. Follow York Bridge Circle past Manipari Lane and Bavaria Lane. As York Bridge Circle curves to the right, look for the third house on the right, 6008 York Bridge Circle (white limestone, one story).

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.

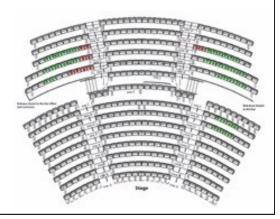
Come join us on April 13th, 2016 at the Zach Theatre. The show is at 7:30 PM with a post performance discussion following the production.

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

We were blessed to have all 3 children with us for two weeks over the holidays - the favorite guest being the 5 month old grand-daughter, sweet little Oakley. Our daughter-in-law Callie was anxious to explore Austin and of course had done her online research. Thanks to Newcomer's, I thought I was fairly familiar with the Austin restaurant scene, but she had a list of restaurants, each of which were new to me. She has dietary issues (gluten & yeast) and Austin has much to offer. She was like a kid in a candy store when she opened the menu at Wild Wood Bakehouse on Guadalupe. Apparently a 100% GF restaurant is a rarity. Austin never ceases to amaze! We were so impressed we returned the next morning for the breakfast brunch - stuffed avocado not to be missed.



This is one of the many things we do well here at Newcomer's -

discovering the seemingly endless array of unique and fun things to do in our beloved city. As you peruse your Welcome Mat and our amazing new website for your February activities, please know that this is the result of a hardworking, diligent team on our Board of Directors as well as our Interest Group Chairs. It is that time of year when I am tasked with assembling a Nominating Committee to recruit our new Board. They will be on a talent search seeking those who are willing to give back and share their talents to ensure that this great Club continues to thrive and evolve into the "best Newcomer's Club in Texas....maybe anywhere!" The Board consists of the Executive Board and the Chair Persons of the Standing Committees, all of which have important roles. Job descriptions will soon be posted on our website and I ask you to look them over, become familiar with the prerequisites and details of each position and strongly consider volunteering. Should you be contacted by a member of the Nominating Committee to fill a position, please strongly consider the request and say yes! Each and every position is vital to the smooth operation of our large and vibrant club. Find something that fits your interests and abilities and VOLUNTEER! "I'm too new" is not a reason to decline. After all, we are members of a newcomer's club! I can honestly say seven months into my presidency that the benefits and fulfillment of working with so many wonderful and talented people, FAR outweigh the time and effort involved.

Remember all are welcome at the monthly Board meetings, the 1st Wednesday of each month and details are posted in the Welcome Mat and website. Come and see what goes on behind the scenes and join the fun! If you are not quite ready for a Board position, please volunteer to be on a committee or to chair an Interest Group.

I am so grateful for each and every one of you - whether you are on the Board or a member feeling welcome and engaged. I look forward to meeting as many of our members as I can and we look forward to welcoming some of you to our Board! PLEASE consider playing a more active part in this great organization.

Fondly,

Jan

Page 4 February 2016

Website Tip of the Month - Adding Interest Groups to Your Profile

The ANC website has a new feature where you can add the Interest Groups you participate in (or would like to participate in) to your profile.

Go to the Homepage. Under Membership, click on Check Out Our Interest Groups!

There you will find a list of all of the ANC Interest Groups.

Once you click on ADD. It will open a window asking for your name and contact information. Complete that and click Join These Interest Groups.

This will send an email with your Contact Information to the Interest Group Chair. Depending on what type of group it is, the Chair might contact you or at least they know that you have an interest in the upcoming activities.

Once you've completed this, the Interest Group should be added to your Directory Profile.

The Directory now has a new search by Interest Group function. Members can search for those who are interested in or participating in a particular Interest Group.

Please keep in mind that completing this does not register you for that Group's events. You still need to register on the Online Calendar or email the coordinator to properly RSVP for each event. You can also get real time updates in the Weekly Bulletin that is delivered to your email.

If you have any questions, please contact the ANC webmaster at webmaster@austinnewcomers.com.



State Capitol at Dawn

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, February 25th

Social: 10:00 AM Discussion: 10:30 AM

Book: February - "Under the Wide and Starry Sky"

by Nancy Horan

Upcoming Books:

March - "Nightingale" by Kristin Hannah

April - "A God in Ruins" by Kate Atkinson May - "Ordinary Grace" by Kent Krueger ve kept this

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

Pam Walker 2525 Spring Lane

Discussion Facilitator:

TBA

RSVP: Pam Walker totonj@austin.rr.com 512-694-2211

Chairs:

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

Directions:

Take Mopac to the Windsor Rd exit. Go west on Windsor (away from town) to Spring Lane which will be on the right one street before Exposition. 2525 will be about 3 blocks from Windsor, on the right. It is a gray stucco with a red door.

Yellow Rose Group

Home of

Heather Ashbee 6301 Farmdale Lane

Discussion Facilitator:

TBA

RSVP: Heather Ashbee

heatherashbee @comcast.net

512-362-8682

Chairs:

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

Directions:

From MoPac, head South and exit at Davis Lane.

Turn right onto Davis.

Turn right onto Escarpment.

Take the first left onto Abilene.

Turn left onto Farmdale Lane and look for 6301.

Indian Paintbrush Group

Home of

Judy Gunnels 9408 Topridge Dr.

Discussion Facilitator:

Jackie Neuman

RSVP: Judy Gunnels

Judy.gunnels@yahool.com

214-823-5636

Chairs:

Jackie Neuman

Janeuman44@gmail.com

Susan Nichols

Sunichols222@gmail.com

Directions:

Going northeast on Capital of TX Hwy/360, turn left onto Spicewood Springs Rd. Go approximately 3.5 miles. Turn right onto Old Lampasas Trail. Take the 1st left onto Scotland Well Dr. Turn left onto Topridge Dr.

9408 Topridge is on the right.

Page 6 February 2016

movies and Mah Jongg

Arthouse Cinema North Friday, February 12th 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.

Critics' Corner Friday, February 12th at 7:30 PM Note the time change from last month.

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

Arthouse Cinema South Friday, February 12th 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 back-up 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.

Mah Jongg

Thursday, February 11th Thursday, February 25th

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, February 23rd

1:00 PM

Place: Home of Harry Polly

11105 Scotland Well Dr.

Book to be discussed: "Saving Capitalism for the Many, Not the Few" by Robert Reich

Reich makes a very good case that widening inequality largely reflects political decisions that could have gone in very different directions. Saving Capitalism is a very good guide to the state we are in.

Directions: From Mopac, take the 183 N exit, after 3.6 miles take the McNeil/Spicewood Springs exit,

turn left onto Spicewood Springs Rd., after 1.9 miles turn right onto Scotland Well Dr.

Hector Barrio, Chair hebate@gmail.com

512-633-2103



Knit and Stitch

Thursday, February 4th 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Location: Me & Ewe

4903 Woodrow Avenue

RSVP: 512-751-2674

Elaine.doege@doege.com

We meet the first Thursday of the month to talk, knit, crochet, quilt, needlepoint and mend. Bring your handiwork and join us! In February, we are doing something special in that we will be meeting at Me & Ewe, a yarn and fabric store.

Chair: Elaine Doege 512-751-2674

Directions: From Mopac, exit at 45th St. and go east. Turn left onto Burnet. After a block and a bit, Woodrow veers off to the right. Go through the intersection. Me & Ewe is the second business on the right. Parking on the street and in the rear.

GOGREEN

GOPAPERLESS

Sign up to get this newsletter in your Inbox Send an email to:

vpmembership@austinnewcomers.com

Afternoon Mystery Book Group

Wednesday, February 10th

1:00 PM

Book: "The English Girl" by Daniel Silva

Discussion leader: Bronwyn Bowen

Host: Bobbi Barrio

4704 Hickory Hollow

RSVP: bobbibarrio@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: From MoPac, take the 2222 exit, and head west. Turn right onto Mesa Drive (there is a traffic light). Turn left onto Cross Valley Run, which becomes Mt. Bonnell Road. Take a right at Hickory Hollow and park in the center of the cul-de-sac.

March book: "The Big Sleep" by Raymond Chandler

Page 8 February 2016

Photography Group

Welcome photographers! The photography interest group meets twice a month, once for a photo shoot "usually" on the second Tuesday and again on the fourth Tuesday for a photo share. Contact co-chairs listed below to be added to the distribution list.

PHOTO SHOOT

Tuesday, February 9th Texas State Capitol

10:00 AM Meet in the rotunda

12:00 PM Lunch at the Capitol Grill located in the Capitol Extension

Please be sure you're on the Newcomers Photography e-mail list if you'd like to participate. Specific details will be e-mailed on or about February 4th.

RSVP: Linda Avitt

512-468-1542

biketrash@grandecom.net

PHOTO SHARE SESSION

Tuesday, February 23rd

Send up to 6 photos to Kathy Jones at

kajones510@gmail.com. She will compile a show to project photos on a screen for other members to enjoy and to offer ideas.

Location: Precision Camera store's classroom at 2438

W. Anderson Lane in the West Anderson Plaza

Time: 10:30 AM socializing — 11:00 AM share photos Optional lunch afterwards at a nearby restaurant.

RSVP: Kathy Jones

512-241-1663

kajones510@gmail.com

T.G.I.Social

Thank Goodness It's Social!

T.G.I.Social is a time to kick back to meet and connect with friends old and new.

Saturday, February 6th

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Home of: Alyce and Terry Richardson

8320 Chalk Knoll Drive

Cost: \$1.00 collected at the door to cover paper

goods.

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

RSVP to both:

Alyce and Terry Richardson

aluciarichardson@gmail.com 512-329-0686

and

Charlotte Slack

cbs200@gmail.com

979-255-1680

Get a head start on March!

Sunday, March 6th at the home of Miriam and Dilvio Miranda

7112 Doswell Lane

RSVP to Miriam Miranda

dfm1903@yahoo.com 512-394-0873

Also RSVP to Charlotte (see above)

Saturday, April 2 hosted by Chuck and Leslie Ege Saturday, May 14 hosted by Paul and Linda Parrish

Mexican Train

Wednesday, February 10th 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

<u>Directions</u>: 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, February 18th 9:45 AM Social Time 10:00 AM Play begins promptly

IHOP S. MOPAC 1101 S. Mopac Expressway

Please 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:

Linda Buckingham 512-291-9929 ladybucko@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.

Euchre

Saturday, February 13th 7:00 PM

The **EUCHRE INTEREST GROUP**

continues to gather, well, interest. The game is fast, fun to play, and easy to learn with just enough twists and turns to keep it interesting. Meeting on Saturday, February 13, the group is looking for a host (easy to do -- just provide the place and space to play; participants bring snacks and drinks). Give yourself or a loved one a great Valentine's Day present and come play euchre! Email Jerry at:

gnilsson5900@gmail.com

Jerry and Susan Nilsson-Weiskott



Lots of fun Bridge and more!

First Friday Social Bridge Friday, February 5th

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.

Ed and Edna Stokes RSVP:

> 512-280-4117 edward@stokes.biz

Last Months Winners:

First Place:

Diedre Brightman-2910 pts

Second Place: Julie Mckenna-2740

Third Place: Bob Banish-1810

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

Kitchen Bridge

Wednesday, February 24th 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Home of: Mari Lowe

5120 Jenkins Cove

RSVP: Marj Lowe 512-372-9894

loweandlowe@ameritech.net

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.

Mimi Rhea Chair:

> 512-491-0744 eerhea@att.net

Daytime Buddy Bridge

Players meet monthly from September through May 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

Bunco

Tuesday, February 16th 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM Home of:

Nancy Ferrin

Current Bunco members RSVP to Nancy at 818-681-3284

nferrin5169@gmail.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, February 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th 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, February 25th

6:30 PM: Social/Appetizer 7:00 PM: The Game Begins

Cost: \$5.00 per person Hostess: Bonnie Kelly

> 6000 Rutledge Lane 216-702-7407

bonniekelly7@gmail.com

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: 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 February, our date will be Monday, February 8th, weather permitting. Interested golfers should call or email about one week in advance, in this case by Sunday, January 31st.

Barbara McCollum will be replacing Mari Lowe as chair of the group in 2016. She will be continuing current practices to include 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:

Barbara McCollum 512-829-4485

t.mccollum3@yahoo.com

Second Sunday Scrabble

Sunday, February 14th

3:00 PM

New Location: Russell's Bakery & Coffee Bar

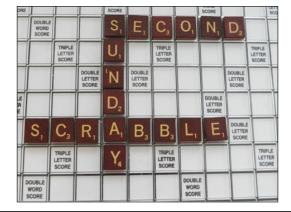
3339 Hancock Drive

Please Join us for a couple of fun games of Second Sunday Scrabble.

RSVP: by February 11th to:

bhornaday@austin.rr.com

Directions will be provided if needed.



Hello Austin!!

Dear Newcomer Friends

Below are some details of our events 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 you can go online at www.austinnewcomers.com, then to calendar OR contact 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 Events!

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 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**. 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.

Antonelli's Wine and Cheese Social Hour Paring, Saturday, March 5th, 5:00-7:00 PM. Jan Jones and Cindy Johnson.

Join friends for a fun social hour pairing of wine and cheese at Antonelli's Cheese Shop (4220 Duval Street, across from Hyde Park Grill). While you mix and mingle, a perfect pairing of cheeses (with accompaniments) and wine will be served. If you like, you may bring an additional bottle of your favorite wine to share. Cost: \$38.00 per person

Space is limited so RSVP early. RSVP by registering ONLINE at www.austinnewcomers.com, then go to website calendar or send a check to: Jan Jones, 916 Cavalry Ride Trail, Austin, TX 78732

SXSW Four Seasons Hotel Ballroom, Thursday, March 17th at 7 AM. Charlotte Slack and Bea Wilson The South by Southwest Music Festival http://www.sxsw.com/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. 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 at 98 San Jacinto Blvd. with parking in the hotel underground garage for \$5.00. Please note: The parking garage rate jumps to \$50.00 after 9:00 AM. Cost: Pay at the door \$10 for breakfast taco and unlimited coffee. RSVP by registering ONLINE at www.austinnewcomers.com, then go to calendar or email Charlotte Slack at cbs200@gmail.com or Bea Wilson at wilsonb4@aol.com. No limit on how many can attend, but reserved seats are not possible. First come, first to get seats. The later you come, the more likely it will be standing room only.

continued on next page

Page 12 February 2016

Hello Austin!! (continued)

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. The group 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 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 non-profit 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 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 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:

- 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

The Friends Connection

ANC has a new interest group! In response to overwhelming requests, a new interest group called "The Friends Connection" has been formed. The purpose of the group is to connect members informally. For example, if you are married but are finding yourself sitting at home alone while your spouse plays golf, this is the group for you. Find a friend to see a movie, eat out or take a day trip. Maybe you are new to ANC and wanted to attend an ANC event but dread the idea of going alone and facing a sea of unknown faces. Put the word out, see who else is interested and go together. You're single and want to explore the many new restaurants in Austin but what fun is it to eat alone? Why fly solo when you can share your exploration with a member of The Friends Connection. The group has over 35 members and counting. Although there are no set monthly meetings, there will from time to time be events scheduled by and for the group. Join now and share your ideas!

Co-Chairs: Lynne Marcus, lmarcus@marcusco.com

Renee Bazar, 4RBazar@gmail.com

TRY THIS - in February

February Activities in and around Austin

Mardi Gras Downtown – February 9th – Sixth St. Don your best purple, green and gold attire and head to Sixth St. and *laisser les bons temps rouler*!

Austin Energy Regional Science Festival – February 17th-20th, Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. Experience one of Texas' largest regional science fairs, which showcase the work of nearly 3,000 students in 3rd through 12th grades. **www.sciencefest.org**

Lights, Camera...The Oscars! – February 20th, Dell Hall, 8:00 p.m. The Austin Symphony Orchestra and guest vocalists will perform music from Academy-Award-winning films. **www.austinsymphony.org**

Flashback – A Retro Dance Party Benefit – February 20th, The Parish, 214 E. 6th St. An over-the-top 80's and 90's dance party, benefiting Austin Children's Shelter & Safe Place. DJ, costume contest, silent auction, and dance contest. **www.flashback.austinchildrensservices.org**

Austin Jugglefest – February 26th-28th, Texas School for the Deaf, 1102 Congress Ave. Three days of circus art, juggling, unicycling, demonstrations and workshops. **www.jugglingplace.org/jugglefest**

Carnaval Brasileiro – February 2727, Palmer Events Center, 923 Barton Springs Rd. Live samba music, conga lines, costumes and wild abandon fill the events center. **www.sambaparty.com**

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

Ex-Pats

Date: Saturday, February 20th

Time: 6:00 PM

Home of: Doreen and David Hyde 11528 Overlook Pass

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.

RSVP: doreenh@austin.rr.com

512 585-6402

Chair: Sara Pavliscak

512-970-7460

sarapavliscak@hotmail.com

Directions: From Mopac, take Southwest Parkway; turn right on to Highway 71 West. Turn left on to Spanish Oaks Club Boulevard to the Guard gate. They will have your name from the RSVP list. Continue on Spanish Oaks Club Boulevard to the first traffic circle. Stay right and take the second exit which is Paraiso Parkway. Then take the second right on Overlook Pass. We are the last house on the right just before another gate. Drive up the hill to 528 Overlook Pass.

Day Trippers-Visit to Cuero

Tuesday, February 16th

Tour: 10:00 AM Chisholm Trail Heritage Museum,

302 N. Esplanade 361-277-2866

Lunch: 11:15 AM \$27.00 Eagle Ford Restaurant,

604 Esplanade 361-524-5033

Menu: Lettuce wedge with bacon & bleu cheese, Seafood Gumbo, bread pudding with whiskey sauce and your drink (price includes tax and tip).

Other tour choices after lunch: Wagner Hardware, Cooking Depot, Pecan House, Rendezvous Boutique, Full-O-Pep Boutique for Men & Gals & Gardening. All of these establishments are on Esplanade (Hwy 183).

RSVP: Send your check for \$27.00, made out to "Twan" Brady, to 6820 Cypress Point N. Austin, TX 78746. Your check is your reservation and needed by Friday February 12th!!!!!

Carpool: From the Chase Bank on Walsh Tarlton across from Barton Creek Square Mall or will meet your group in Cuero.

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

Next trip: "Selah" - Bamberger Ranch - Tuesday April 5th. Tour is 3.5 hours. Cost is \$20.00 for ranch tour. Located near Hwy 290 and west of Hwy 281. Mark your calendar!!! They have a great story to tell!!!

Page 14 February 2016

Happy Hour

Tuesday, February 16th (the 3rd Tuesday)

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Chinatown Westlake

2712 Bee Cave Road

RSVP: Debbie Dryjanski

debbiedryjanski@gmail.com

512-520-4527

Come join old friends and new to celebrate the Lunar New Year at the Newcomers' Happy Hour. Sample kabobs, spring rolls, dumplings and more along with special-priced drinks.

French Conversation

Wednesday, February 10th (2nd Wednesday)

12:30 PM

Home of: Rosa Schmid

10209-B River Plantation Drive

RSVP: ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY

512-280-3548

rosaschmid@hotmail.com

frenchconversation@austinnewcomers.com

Sujet: If you had to live your life all over again,

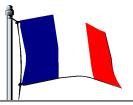
what would you do differently?

Directions: Take IH-35 south (towards San Antonio), take exit 225 (Onion Creek Parkway), go straight into the subdivision. Turn left onto Pinehurst Dr., go about a mile then turn right onto River Plantation Dr. Rosa's house is on the left (10209 "B" River Plantation). The house shares a driveway with another house to the right. Rosa will send parking instructions to those who RSVP.

Chair: Elaine Crockett

512-669-0966

frenchconversation@austinnewcomers.com



Come to Dinner - Bring a Plate

Saturday, February 27th at 6:30 PM

Location: The home of Lark Kaskie

Directions: Will be given when you RSVP

This group of single women meets once a month for

dinner at the home of a fellow member.

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 hostess, we are able to accommodate more guests.

The hostess plans the menu and distributes recipes to the guests. The guests are responsible for preparing one of the recipes.

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

If you wish to join us or would like further information call or email Iris

512-351-8569

irisgroten@gmail.com

If you wish to attend the February 27th dinner RSVP to Iris by February 16th.

Spanish Conversation *Bienvenidos*

Monday, February 15th at 10:00 AM La Madeleine Restaurant

Westlake Hills Shopping Center

Bee Cave Rd. (FM2244) and Capital of Texas Hwy South (Loop 360)

Directions: From Capital of Texas (Loop 360) turn east on Bee Cave Rd., shopping center is on the right.

Topic: Whatever inspires you, as long as you speak in Spanish!

For information or to RSVP, contact:

Susana Surbek 512-382-6859

susana.surbek@hotmail.com

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.

Shop Austin! is going to Georgetown

Date: Thursday, March 31st

Time: Tour 10:00 AM

Lunch 11:30 AM, Shopping Follows

Where: Georgetown Visitors Bureau

103 W. 7th Street

Carpooling from Chase Bank on Walsh Tarlton across from Barton Creek Mall can be arranged

Cost: FREE

Downtown Georgetown is a mecca for bargain hunters, antique lovers, boutique and artisan shoppers as well as those looking for unique items like vintage wares or maybe things for your pet! But it's more than fun – it's the "most beautiful town square in Texas." Thanks to a local historical ordinance passed in 1976, the historic central business district comprised of 46 structures was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These buildings represent some of the finest Victorian commercial architecture found in the State today.

On our **Shop Austin!** outing, we'll start at the Georgetown Visitors Bureau where we'll receive a guided tour of the buildings / commercial architecture around the Square.

We'll follow that with an amazing lunch made from fresh/local ingredients at **Eats on 8**th, 204 E. 8th Street, Georgetown. www.eatson8th.com

Then participating stores will welcome us with specials and other delights and we'll end with a wine tasting at Grape Creek Winery.

RSVP: A MUST by emailing Diane Gallagher at **cd_gallagher28@hotmail.com** or register online!! You can also email for directions.

ArTreks

There is no ArTreks event in February.





Page 16 February 2016

Hearty Hikers

Tuesday, February 9th Enchanted Rock

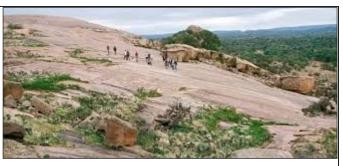
8:30 AM – carpool departs (see below)

Cost: \$7.00 (state park fee- free if you have a Texas

Parks Pass)

What to Bring: Water, snack, and a picnic lunch. Wear sturdy shoes, a hat, and sunscreen. Hiking

stick (optional).



Enchanted Rock is a "noble promontory rising high above the Hill Country between Llano and Fredericksburg" (about 2 hours away). This is Texas' largest mountain comprised of a single rock; pink granite. It is one of the oldest exposed rocks in North America. It is a known batholith, a large rounded dome of granite that formed as a pocket of magma under the Earth's surface about 1 million years ago. During our hike, we will climb to the summit and then descend via a different route and return to the base along a relatively flat trail around the rock, approximately 4 miles long. The summit climb, up and down, is steep and in full sun. If there has been a recent rainfall, there may be a water crossing. The views from the summit are amazing! The level of difficulty for this hike is 3.5 out of 5.

Restrooms are available at the beginning and end of the trail.

Note: Times are approximately 8:30 AM- 4:00 PM.

RSVP with your name and cell phone number to:

Beth Holcomb 908-963-9731

bethholcomb7@gmail.com

and

Dorothy Docherty 512-351-6724

dotinsg@hotmail.com

Directions: Carpool meets at 8:30 near the Starbucks at FM2244/Bee Cave Rd. and Hwy. 71. HEB shares the same parking lot. Contact Beth if you need directions to meet at Enchanted Rock.

Happy Trails

Saturday, February 20th - 9:00 AM
Dick Nichols Park--8011 Beckett Road

Canine Compatibility: Leashed dogs permitted

Bring: water, sunscreen, sturdy shoes, hat, dress for the weather **RSVP:** with name and contact phone number to: (email response pre-

ferred)

happytrails@austinnewcomers.com

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



This loop trail is encircled by oak trees, shrubs, and good habitat for birds and other wildlife. The semi-wild areas near the edges of the path invite investigation. The concrete-paved trail is bordered by heavy woods in this 152-acre park. We will venture off the path to view a karst cave (protected by a barrier). A karst is an underground area of eroded limestone, caves, and streams. The karst under central Texas allows groundwater to flow into the Edwards Aquifer, which provides Austin with its drinking water supply. This is an easy walk for beginners and families. It is wheelchair and stroller accessible. Dick Nichols Park is a great one to have in your repertoire.

NEW MEMBERS

Carolyn Powell 101 Dawn River CV Austin, TX 78732 512-567-9106

cjhpowell@gmail.com

Cathryn Hanovice 4616 Ruiz St. Austin, TX 78723 914-388-3643 737-703-5843

libbytoo3@gmail.com

Karen and Larry DeFiore 311 Bowie St, #2812 Austin, TX 78703 248-229-9321 512-551-3588

karendefiore@gmail.com moved from Bloomfield Hills, MI

Michael Walters & Elizabeth Ament 10011 Stonelake Blvd #501 Austin, TX 78759-6081 512-970-6514

bethmint@hotmail.com

Steve and Becky Saltwick 5900 Carry Back Lane Austin, TX 78746 512-736-3009

steve.saltwick@gmail.com

2/12 Dorothy Docherty 2

2/01 Barbara Story2/12 Dorothy Docher2/02 Harvey Simon2/12 Walter Groman2/02 Judy Barbato2/13 Hansa Nasta2/06 Joyce Gioia2/13 Bill Edwards2/07 Barbara Cook2/13 Rick Jones2/07 Donald Stephen2/13 Tom Barney

2/08 Madeline Graham2/14 Ralph Francis2/08 Ed Stokes2/14 Jan Pavliscak2/08 Andre Abriol2/15 Irmgard Berry2/08 Deborah Marks2/15 Kathy Finley2/09 Bonnie Mehok2/15 Karen Wilson

2/09 Bonnie Mehok2/15 Karen Wilson2/09 Kishore Mohanty2/15 Roz Stephenson2/10 Don Fehrenbach2/15 Bill Mandras2/10 Karlene Cusick2/17 Barbara Richie2/10 Dennis Gregoire2/17 Judy Cassorla

2/10 Ken Lucas
2/17 Ralph Harrison
2/11 Elisabeth Soteroff
2/18 Lark Kaskie

2/11 Verena Wilson 2/18 Joy Simon

2/18 Farida Vendal 2/18 Kent Walker

2/20 Sue Phillips 2/20 Faith Stevens

2/20 Dani Macfarlane

2/20 Andrea (Andi) Reaves

2/20 Jean Warren

2/23 Ron Calhoun

2/24 Joyce Walker 2/25 Nikki Faulkner

2/25 INIKKI FAUIKITEI
2/25 Ethel Tarleton

2/26 Nedra Low

2/26 Donald Coordt

2/28 Twan Brady

2/28 Diane Gallagher

2/28 Laj Nasta



Page 18 February 2016

February 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 11:00 AM Canasta	2	3 • 9:30 AM Board Meeting	4 • 10:00 AM Knit & Stitch	5 • 6:30 PM 1st Friday Bridge	6 • 4:00 PM TGI Social
7	8 • Golf • 11:00 AM Canasta	9 • 8:30 AM Hearty Hikers • 10:00 AM Photo Shoot	10 • 11:00 AM Mexican Train • 12:30 PM French Conversation • 1:00 PM Afternoon Mystery Book Club	11 • 1:00 PM Mah Jongg	12 • 7:30 PM Critics Corner •7:30 PM Arthouse Cinemas North and South	13 • 7:00 PM Euchre
• 3:00 PM Scrab- ble	15 • 10:00 AM Spanish Conversation • 11:00 AM Canasta	16 • 10:00 AM Day Trippers • 10:30 AM Bunco • 4:00 PM Happy Hour	17 • 11:00 AM Monthly Meeting and Luncheon	18 • 9:45 AM Third Thursday Bridge • 7:30 PM River Dance	19	20 • 9:00 AM Happy Trails • 6:00 PM Ex-Pats
21	22 • 11:00 AM Canasta •	23 • 10:30 AM Photo Share • 1:00 PM Men's Book Club	• 10:30 AM Kitchen Bridge	25 • 10:00 AM Book Groups • 1:00 PM Mah Jongg • 6:30 PM Ladies Poker	26	• 6:30 PM Country Dancing • 6:30 PM Come to Dinner
28	29 • 11:00 AM Canasta					

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

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON RESERVATION

for Wednesday, February 17th (Reservations deadline is Friday, February 12th)

Name(s)
Please print
Phone
Check only one of the following:
Continuing member household Have not joined yet
1st luncheon as member 2nd luncheon as member
Austin zip code moved from
Guest
Please print
Check only one of the following:
guest qualifies for membership guest does not qualify for membership
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 LUNCHEON.



Reservation absolutely required!

Luncheon Price: \$30.00 if received by February 12th
No reservation requests after February 12th

Register on line or make check payable to:

Austin Newcomers Club

Please mail check with the above reservation form

to Luncheon Director:

Peggy Sklar 6006 Salton Dr. Austin, TX 78759 Reservations due by Friday, February 12th

Allow 3 days for delivery.

Cancellations due by Friday, February 12th

Contact Peggy Sklar 512-350-1037 or psklar1@gmail.com

Kindly check in upon arrival, as your name tag will be your lunch ticket! Child care is not available.

Page 20 February 2016

The Welcome Mat Austin Newcomers Club PO Box 163343 Austin TX 78716-3343

The Welcome Mat Staff

Newsletter Editor Brandon Jones Proof readers Kathy Jones

Iris Groten

Austin Newcomers Club Officers

President Jan Jones

VP-Membership Annie Prasad

VP-Programs Susi Spies

Secretary Renee Bazar

Treasurer Darlene Mahanay

Luncheon Director Peggy Sklar

Interest Group Coordinator

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 **wm.submissions@hotmail.com**

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.