

The Welcome Mat

Austin Newcomers Newsletter

March 2016 Vol. LXVIII No. 9

www.AustinNewcomers.com



Wednesday, March 16, 2016 General Meeting, Dinner, and Program

Note the New Location and Time!!!!

**Matt's El Rancho Famous Mexican
Restaurant**
2613 S. Lamar Blvd
Austin, TX 78704
512-462-9333
Price: \$30

Reservations can be made **on line**
or using the form on the inside of
the back cover. All paper checks
MUST be received by **Friday, March
11th**

6:00 PM Social
6:30 PM Mexican Buffet

Dietary Restrictions must be noted
with your Registration.



Directions:

2613 S. Lamar is between US 71
to the West and Oltorf Road to
the East. Please look up exact
directions on your GPS or the
Internet .

A New Direction in Texas Athletics!

Do you enjoy sports or would like to hear more about UT
sports?

Do you like to attend college athletic events?

Would you like to learn how you can enjoy and get more in-
volved in supporting University of Texas Athletic programs?

Then you won't want to miss our next program speaker!

Jareth Glanda, a former University of Michigan football player,
and a key leader of the University of Texas Athletics Ticket
Sales, Service and Retention department will speak to us about
the landscape of athletics in Austin, the new direction of their
department and opportunities for us to help build and support
a first-class sports program with all of the Long Horn teams.

Jareth's team is the gateway to the Texas Sports family. They're
setting new standards in Texas hospitality by building relation-
ships and creating fans for life. Join us at Matt's El Rancho for
this fun and interesting evening event.

Meet at 6:00 PM



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ANC March Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 2nd

9:30 AM Social, 10:00 AM Meeting

Where: Home of Alison Seaman
10337 Salida Drive

RSVP: Jan Jones jones6lp@gmail.com
Alison Seaman alisonseaman@yahoo.com
or RSVP on the website

Directions: From the South: Mopac South to Slaughter. Left (East) on Slaughter, pass Bowie High School, Right on Wolftrap, Right on Trout. 10337 is on the corner of Trout and Salida.

650-714-5142

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.

40 of the reserved seats are \$51.00 and 10 more are \$66.00. Please RSVP ONLINE OR mail your check to Alison Seaman 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.

The LAST day (firm) to purchase tickets is: March 22nd, 2016. Tickets: \$51.00 & \$66.00.

Alison Seaman
alisonseaman@yahoo.com

Letter from the President

Spring is in the air! March is the month Mother Nature comes alive with a breathtaking display of wildflowers and festivals such as the Zilker Kite Festival (March 6th), and of course SXSW (South by Southwest), the world famous series of Music, Film and Interactive festivals. I have always been intimidated by the crowds but this year I am looking forward to experiencing a slice of this festival in a lovely setting on March 17th with our very own Hello Austin event. I find myself anticipating the beauty of springtime renewal and new life - driving around Austin and the surrounding Hill Country, taking in the magnificence of bluebonnets, Indian paint brush, and pink evening primrose along with, if I am lucky, my favorites - baby goats and calves. Once the wildflowers are in bloom, you can call a hotline to get up to date spotting information at 800-452-9292. There is so much to see and do that we can't cover it all in our very extensive list of activities at ANC. To see a sampling of happenings in Austin (not sponsored by ANC), please check out our TRY THIS section each month including your suggestions put together by Donna Dauenhauer.



As you can see in the following pages, there is an incredible abundance of activities, outings, and social opportunities here in Newcomers. Last month I had the privilege of attending for the first time our very large and popular Ex-Pats Group. As is the case with all ANC events, there was no shortage of fine food (very international in this group), and friendly people. I so enjoyed listening in on stories and anecdotes of visits and memories in other countries. When I asked how many countries might be represented over a year of gatherings, I was astounded to learn it was in the range of 40!

Do not limit yourself to your tried and true selections. Make a resolution to try something new every month!

It is an exciting time in our Club! We have welcomed 87 new member households since enrollment began and 67 new members at our highly successful quarterly Welcome Events hosted by Karen and Don Kirmis. We know good businesses grow largely by word of mouth, which is what we have relied on for many years, but these days good websites are critical. Many of the newbies have shared with us that they found us on our new website! Launched in late November after months of very hard work by not only the web designer we hired, but by our past President Diane Gallagher, we now have a website that is fresh, snazzy, and user friendly. It is still in its infancy and as we expected, there is an adjustment period. Please become familiar with it's many features and if you have questions, Diane usually has her laptop with her at luncheons and is happy to be of assistance.

I have been blessed to be surrounded by capable, talented and dedicated people on this Board. When you see them, please do thank them for their hard work. A club of our size requires considerable time and talent to function and grow, and our Nominating Committee is soliciting the participation of new people to share their talents with us. Please consider joining us in this most rewarding and fun endeavor.

Happy Spring!

Website Tip of the Month – Adding Photos to Your Profile

It's super easy to add a photo to your profile and even add more than one photo to the Photo Gallery!

First the Primary Member should log into your Account.

Then click on the Profile Tab.

On the **Profile Card** – click on the area on the card to upload your **Profile Photo**.

Then while you are on the Card - you should go to a photos file on your computer or find a photo that you have stored somewhere on your computer (maybe on your desktop); click on it to upload.

The photo should appear in the card area.

Next type in the area how you want the name to appear. And you have an area to provide a brief description of yourself.

If you go further down, you will find a **Profile Gallery**. This area allows you to upload several photos that you might like to share with other members. It is just the same. Click on the area and then go to your computer and find a file that has a photo in it that you'd like to share. Once you get to the file with the photo, click on it and it should open in the area of the **Profile Gallery**. You can add several photos here so have fun with it!

As always, email webmaster@austinnewcomers.com with any questions.

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!*

The Friends Connection

Why fly solo when you can share with a member of The Friends Connection. Find a friend to see a movie, eat out, take a day trip or attend an Austin Newcomer's event. Put the word out to members of the group, see who else is interested and go together. Meeting times vary with activities. Join the group by contacting the group leader at thefriendsconnection@austinnewcomers.com or contact Lynne Marcus, lmarcus@marcusco.com or Renee Bazar, 4RBazar@gmail.com.

Event in April

Sunday, April 24th

Day Trip to Doctor Pound Historical Home in Dripping Springs, "Gateway to the Hill Country".

Meet our trip organizer, Karen Werner, at 1:30 PM at The Creek Road Café located at 301 West Highway 290 in Dripping Springs for lunch. Afterward proceed to the Pound Home, 570 Founders Park Road.

The family-owned Creek Road Café is rated one of the best in Dripping Springs.

The Doctor Pound Historical Complex was begun 1854 by Dr. Pound and Sara his wife. We are privileged to have Wanda, their Great-Great Grandchild giving our tour which includes a fascinating glimpse of this rural community and how its inhabitants lived along with the Indians. After the tour you will have time on your own to try out retail therapy at Cowboys and Lace or Valli and Kim which has wonderful, unusual fabrics. Other options include Texas Hill Country Oil Company and the Bell Springs Winery.

Please use your group member list to set up carpools.

Limited to 30 persons. Register on the ANC Website or contact Karen Werner at karentwerner20@aol.com or 817-896-4905.

Book Groups: Thursday, March 24th

Social: 10:00 AM

Discussion: 10:30 AM

Upcoming Books:

April - "A God in Ruins" by Kate Atkinson
 May - "Ordinary Grace" by Kent Krueger
 June - "Being Mortal and What Matters at the End" by Atul
 Giwande
 July - "Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher" by Timothy
 Egan
 August - "The Little Paris Book Shop" by Nina George
 September - "The Garden of Evening Mists" by Tan Twan
 Eng
 October - "The Inheritance Loss" by Kiran Desai
 November/December- "Transatlantic" by Colum McCann



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
 Barbara Klayman
 5708 Raindrop Cove

Discussion Facilitator:
 Iris Groten

RSVP:
 512-418-0902
barbklay@hotmail.com

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

Directions:
 From Loop 1 take 183 exit
 (Research Blvd). Turn left onto
 Great Hills Trail. Turn right onto
 Raincreek Pkwy. Turn left onto
 Raindrop Cove.



Yellow Rose Group

Home of
 Vella Gregoire
 11800 Sterlinghill Drive

Discussion Facilitator:
 TBA

RSVP: Vella Gregoire
vella@austin.rr.com
 512-339-4384

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

Directions:
 From North MoPac, go right on
 W. Braker Lane, past The Do-
 main, past Burnet and Metric
 Rds, to the next light at Park-
 field. Turn left, then take the 1st
 right onto Knollpark. Turn im-
 mediately left on Sterlinghill
 Dr. 11800 is the last house on
 the left.



Indian Paintbrush Group

Home of
 Andie Allen
 5900 Westslope Drive

Discussion Facilitator:
 Janet Lande

RSVP: Andie Allen
andreaalleninteriors
@impac-ep.com
 512-587-6949 (cell)

Chairs:
 Jackie Neuman
Janeuman44@gmail.com
 Susan Nichols
Sunichols222@gmail.com

Directions:
From MoPac: Exit 2222. Follow
 2222 as it curves to the right. Pass
 the light on Mesa. Turn right on
 Westslope Dr. House is about ½
 mile up the street on the left.
From 360: Exit 2222. Head east
 toward MoPac. Pass Westslope
 Circle. Turn left on Westslope
 Drive. House is about ½ mile up
 the street on the left.

movies and mah jongg

Arthouse Cinema North

Friday, March 11th 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, March 11th 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 co-hosts. 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, March 11th 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, March 10th

Thursday, March 24th

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 [new location](#) 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, March 22nd

1:00 PM

Place: Home of Charlie Corona
1011 Wild Dunes Drive

Book to be discussed: "Rebel Yell: The Violence, Passion and Redemption of Stonewall Jackson" by S.C. Gwynne

In Rebel Yell, Mr. Gwynne's easy, loping style wraps itself effortlessly around the particulars of Stonewall Jackson's life, from his back-of-the mountain upbringing to the outburst of military genius in the Civil War. The result is a narrative vivid with detail and insight. Gwynne accomplishes a great deal in his clear and

highly readable book. If you have read everything about the Civil War - or if you have read very little about the Civil War - Rebel Yell is an excellent addition to your reading list.

Directions: From the North: Take 35 South, take exit 225 toward FM-1626, Onion Creek Parkway; turn left onto I35 access road; turn right onto Boca Raton; turn left onto Pinehurst Dr; turn left onto Shinnecock Hills Dr; at the end of the road, turn right onto Wild Dunes Dr.

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

Knit and Stitch

Thursday, March 3rd

10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Home of: Elaine Doege
2900 Mossback Lane

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!

Chair: Elaine Doege 512-751-2674

Directions: Exit Mopac at Slaughter Lane. Turn left (East) on Slaughter. Turn right (South) on Brodie. Turn right at the fourth traffic light onto Gatling Gun. Take second left onto Gunmetal. Take first right onto Mossback. 2900 is the fourth house on the right.



Afternoon Mystery Book Group

Wednesday, March 9th, 1:00 PM

Book: "The Big Sleep" by Raymond Chandler

Discussion leader: Pat Green

Host: Susan Nichols
4549 Gulf Vista Drive

RSVP: **snichols222@sbcglobal.net**
512-296-1282

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 Hwy 360 (Capitol of TX Hwy), take FM 2222 west. Turn left at the light onto River Place Blvd. Go about 1.8 miles. At the bottom of the small hill, turn left onto Golf Vista Dr. (If you pass the country club, you've gone too far.) Susan's is the fourth house on the left. It's a gated street but the gate code will be given when you RSVP.

April book: "What Angels Fear" by C.S. Harris

GOGREEN

GOPAPERLESS

Sign up to get this newsletter in your Inbox

Send an email to:

vpmembership@austinnewcomers.com

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

Thursday, March 17th

SXSW Street Photography

11:45 AM: Meet for lunch at Threadgill's, 6416 North Lamar

1:45 PM: Board Metro train at Highland Mall for ride to Convention Center.

2:00 PM to whenever: Wander around downtown east of Congress.

Please be sure you're on the Newcomers Photography e-mail list if you'd like to participate. Final details will be e-mailed on or about March 12th.

RSVP: Linda Avitt
512-468-1542
biketrash@grandecom.net

PHOTO SHARE SESSION

Tuesday, March 22nd

Send up to 6 photos to Brandon Jones (Kathy is in Cape Town) at Brandon@cbjones.info. He 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: Brandon Jones
512-241-1663
Brandon@cbjones.info

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.

Sunday, March 6th

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Home of: Dilvio and Miriam Miranda
7112 Doswell Lane

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:

Miriam Miranda
dfm1903@yahoo.com 512-394-0873 and
Charlotte Slack
cbs200@gmail.com 979-255-1680

Get a head start on April!

Saturday, April 2nd 4-6 PM at the home of Chuck and Leslie Ege

3320 Pearce Road

RSVP to Leslie Ege

l.ege@me.com

409-351-1709

Also RSVP to Charlotte (see above)

Upcoming TGIS:

Saturday, May 14 hosted by Paul and Linda Parrish

Mexican Train

Wednesday, March 9th

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Where: **la Madeleine**
5493 Brodie Lane
www.lamadeleine.com

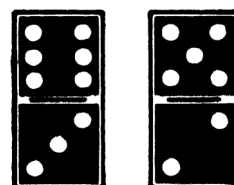
We meet the second Wednesday of the month for a game of dominoes. It is important to arrive on time so we can get the tables set. The game is fun and quick to learn. We play for an hour starting at 11:00 AM, break for lunch, and end by 2:00 PM. Good food/good fun!!!

RSVP: Jane Jenkins 510-289-4650
jane7491jenkins@gmail.com

Directions:

From the East: Traveling west on Route 71/Ben White Blvd exit at Brodie Lane and turn left at the light. la Madeleine will be on the left.

From the West: Traveling east on Route 71/Ben White Blvd exit at Brodie Lane and turn right at the light. la Madeleine will be on the left.



Third Thursday Bridge

Thursday, March 17th
 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:

Edna Stokes
edward@stokes.biz
 512-280-4117

Chair:

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

Directions: From Loop 360 take Mopac North. Take the Rollingwood/Bee Cave Road exit. IHOP is on the right side after the Bee Cave Road traffic light.

Euchre

Saturday, March 19th
 7:00 PM

Fun, fast, fashionable, fierce -- well, maybe not the last two but the **Euchre Interest Group** plays a fun, fast card game with just enough twists to be intriguing. We begin with instruction and/or refresher, then play several games, mixing with different partners and opponents. The March 19th meeting will be great if you are there! Everyone brings a drink and snack to share and we play from 7:00 PM in the evening until everyone is ready to call it a night, usually by 11:00 PM or earlier.

E-mail Jerry at:
gnilsson5900@gmail.com
 Jerry and Susan Nilsson-Weiskott

**Lots of fun
 Bridge and more!**

First Friday Social Bridge

Friday, March 4th

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 Month's Winners:

First Place:
 Edna Stokes-3400 points

Second Place:
 Bob Senecal-2860

Third Place:
 Isabel Cutliss-2710

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

Kitchen Bridge

Wednesday, March 23rd
 10:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Home of: Barbara McCollum
 129 Clear Pond Cove

RSVP: Barbara McCollum
 512-829-7603 or 937-307-7603
t.mccollum3@yahoo.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

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, March 15th
 10:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Home of :

Mary Ann Leitz

Current Bunco members RSVP to Mary Ann at 504-259-8173
ditsy@att.net

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, March 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th
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, March 24th

6:30 PM: Social/Appetizer

7:00 PM: The Game Begins

Cost: \$5.00 per person

Hostess: Inge Eichberg
 5221 Trading Bend

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 March, our date will be **Monday, March 14th**, weather permitting. Interested golfers should call or email about one week in advance, in this case by Sunday, March 6th.

Barbara McCollum has replaced Marj 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, March 13th
3:00 PM to 5:00 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 March 10th 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 at 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!

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 ONLINE at www.austinnewcomers.com by going to the website calendar and selecting the event; or send a check to: Jan Jones, 916 Cavalry Ride Trail, Austin, TX 78732**

SXSW Four Seasons Hotel Ballroom, Thursday, March 17th at 7:00 AM (not a typo). 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 ONLINE at www.austinnewcomers.com by going to the calendar and selecting the event; 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.

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

at rogerseafarer@yahoo.com or A.E. Martin at

ONLINE; OR email Roger Seaman
aemartin@austin.rr.com.



continued on next page

Hello Austin!! (continued)

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 Hello Austin will pay \$8.00. Members will pay at the entrance door. Glynda Eschle is chair for this event. Please RSVP ONLINE; OR email 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).

ANN is coming to Austin - see page 2.

University of Texas College Baseball Game Sunday, May 1st. (Time to be Determined) Theresa Green

Join us and other sports lovers for a great game of college baseball. The Longhorns play Oklahoma State. Tickets are \$16.00 and must be purchased in advance. You can register and pay online on the website or Contact HelloAustinSports@Austinnewcomers.com to get info to mail your check to the organizer. Registration and all payments must be arranged by March 19th in order to purchase a block of seats so that we can all cheer the Longhorns to victory together.

There are several dining options nearby and one will be selected two weeks prior to game time.



Hello Austin Planning Party - May 22, 2016, 4:00 PM, Pattie Webster & David Schieck

Get your thinking caps on! We will be reviewing the past year's favorite events. We will be deciding what we will be repeating and looking forward to new ideas for 2016-2017. **You can register on the website or Contact HelloAustinPlanning@Austinnewcomers.com.** Dinner will be a Barbeque. Please bring either appetizer or side plus your favorite beverage. Please leave your choice of appetizer or side in the message area. More details to follow.

FUTURE EVENTS:

- Con' Olio Oils and Vinegars – Tour and Tasting – Diane Gallagher and Cindy Johnson
- Lake Travis Boating Adventure

New Member Welcome Event

Sunday, April 17th

3:00 - 6:00 PM

Home of : Donna and Bob Withrow
12312 Palisades Pkwy

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

RSVP: withrow19@hotmail.com OR leave a message at: 512-369-3563

Directions: Take Northland Drive / RM 2222 exit from Mopac N. and turn left onto RM 2222. After 8.5 miles, turn left onto RR 620. After 2.1 miles, turn left into the main entrance of Steiner Ranch which is Quinlan Park Road. Proceed roughly 3.8 miles to Bella Mar and turn left. At the roundabout, turn left to Palisades Parkway. The house is the second on the left.

TRY THIS – in March**March Activities in and around Austin**

Explore UT – Saturday, March 5, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Dubbed the greatest Open House in Texas; more than 400 events on campus, demonstrations, and scavenger hunts. www.exploreut@utexas.org

Modern Home Tour Austin – Saturday, March 5, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM, \$35.00 +. Tour some of the city's modern marvels, designed by local architects; self-paced, self-driving tour.

www.modernhometouraustin.com

Sunshine Community Gardens Plant Sales – Saturday, March 5, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, 4814 Sunshine Drive, Austin. Peruse over 125 types of organic tomatoes, peppers, eggplants and more.

www.sunshinecommunitygardens.org

Zilker Park Kite Festival – Sunday, March 6, (Rain date March 13) – Kick off Spring Season with hundreds of kites floating above Zilker Park. Free, pets are welcome. Food vendors and games everywhere.

www.abckitefestival.org

South by Southwest – March 11-20, Hundreds of bands, dozens of films and plenty of interactivity come to our city for a week. www.sxsw.com

St. Patrick's Day Festival – March 16-17, Shoal Crossing Event Center, 8611 N. MoPac. Lots of music, food and dancing make this one of Austin's most lively events. An authentic display of Irish culture and pride.

www.stpatricksdayaustin.com

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

Ex-Pats

Date: Saturday, March 19th

Time: 6:00 PM

Home of: Alyce and Terry Richardson
8320 Chalk Knoll Drive

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: Alyce Richardson
aluciarichardson@gmail.com
512-329-0686

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

Directions: Driving on Bee Cave Rd. from Route 360, turn left on Barton Creek Blvd. Go two miles past the entrance of the Omni Resort. Make the second left into the Woods Development. The address is on the left side about 7 houses down. You will be sent a Gate Code by email after you RSVP. If you do not receive it, contact either Alyce Richardson or Sara Pavliscak.

Day Trippers—"Selah" - Bamberger Ranch Tour

Tuesday, April 5th

Meet at 9 :00 AM. sharp. "Country John" available. Please plan ahead!

3.5 hour tour on trailer of square bales of hay (On and off).

Located near hwy 290 and west of hwy 281.

Cost \$15.00 Your check is your reservation!!!!
Trailer accommodates 40 people.

Maps will be furnished

Lunch on the way home at Trudy's just east of Dripping Springs

Carpool from Chase Bank on Walsh Tarlton across from Barton Creek Square Mall or will meet your group at "Selah".

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

Let me know that your check is in the mail!

Mark your calendar, send your check now ! - to
"Twan" Brady, 6820 Cypress Point N Unit 6, Austin 78746

They have a great story to share with ALL!!!

Happy Hour

Tuesday, March 15th (the 3rd Tuesday)

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Abel's on the Lake

3825 Lake Austin Blvd

RSVP: Bobbi Barrio
bobbibarro@gmail.com

Come join old friends and new at the Newcomers Happy Hour. Abel's on the Lake offers drink specials and a bar menu that includes \$1 Gulf Coast Oysters.



French Conversation

Wednesday, March 9th

(2nd Wednesday)

12:30 PM

Home of: Edith Hegedus
615 Peterson Lane
Lakeway



RSVP: ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY
512-261-8562
frau.hegedus@gmail.com

frenchconversation@austinnewcomers.com

Sujet: Tell us where you came from and what brought you to Austin. What do you like best about Austin, and what do you like least?

Directions: From the East: Take 2222 to 620. Turn left and continue until Lakeway Blvd. Turn right into Lakeway. At the traffic light, turn right into Lohman's Crossing. At the next street, Sailmaster, turn right and go to the end. Turn left into Rupen, next right into Peterson Lane. 615 is on the left.

From the South: Take 71 to the north, turn right onto 620, turn left into Lohman's Crossing. Go through the light and follow directions above towards Sailmaster.

Chair: Elaine Crockett
512-669-0966

frenchconversation@austinnewcomers.com

Come to Dinner - Bring a Plate

Saturday, March 26th (4th Saturday) at 6:30 PM

Location: Homes of Barbara Cook and Sandy Strakosch

Directions will be given when you **RSVP** to Iris Groten at **irisgroten@gmail.com**

This group of single women meets once a month for dinner at the home of a fellow member.

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

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

Our membership roster is full and unfortunately we will have to close this group to new members. If any one would like to chair another Single Women's dinner group contact Iris Groten and she would be happy to help you get one started.

Iris Groten
512-351-8569
irisgroten@gmail.com

If you wish to attend the March 26th dinner RSVP to Iris by March 6th.

Spanish Conversation *Bienvenidos*

Monday, March 21st 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 and on SoCo!**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 8th**, 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! Please register online on our website at <https://austinnewcomers.com/news-events/events/> or you can email Diane Gallagher at cd_gallagher28@hotmail.com. You can also email for directions.

ArTreks

ArTreks Goes to **The Wittliff Collections** at Texas State University in San Marcos.

Friday, March 18th**10:30 AM****Cost:** Free Parking and Admission

What: 90 Minute Docent Tour of the "Rodrigo Moya" photography exhibit (see photo at right) and "The Animals Among Us" photography exhibit.

RSVP:

Alison Seaman

alisonseaman@yahoo.com

Hearty Hikers

Tuesday, March 8th

Violet Crown Trail: Meet in the Spec's parking lot off W US Hwy 290 Service Rd.

9:30 AM

Cost: free

Bring: Water and wear sturdy shoes, a hat, and sunscreen. Hiking stick (optional).

Lunch (optional): Serranos Tex-Mex Mesquite

5030 W US Hwy 290 Service Rd. (same parking lot as Spec's)

512-891-7592

The first six miles of the new Violet Crown Trail opened last August. When completed, the trail will extend 30 miles from Zilker Park into Hays County, ending near the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. The first link runs along Gaines Creek, south of Barton Creek. We will hike about 4 miles up and back on the trail. Most of the trail is shaded with several rocky creek crossings. Another beautiful hiking trail just south of downtown Austin!



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: From the north: Take Mopac (Loop1) south of Lady Bird Lake. Take the exit for Rt. 290/71/Southwest Pkwy onto the Frontage Rd. At the traffic light, turn left making a U-turn onto the Frontage Rd. going northbound. **Immediately** make a right turn into shopping area parking lot. Pass the coffee shop and bear right past shops (AAA, Applebee's, Sam's Club) to the far end of the shopping area to the Spec's parking lot. Park facing US Hwy 290 so that we are closer to the trailhead.

From the south: Take Mopac (Loop 1) north towards Lady Bird Lake. Take the exit towards 71/290/Southwest Pkwy and merge onto the Frontage Rd. In 1/2 mile turn right onto W Hwy 290 Service Rd. going eastbound. At the next intersection make the U-turn from the left lane onto the Service Rd. going westbound. **Immediately** turn right into the Spec's parking lot. Park facing US Hwy 290 in front of Spec's.



Happy Trails

There will not be a planned Saturday walk for the month of March. We will resume in April at Mayfield Park. And remember, walking is still the best way to get a real sense of the beautiful surroundings of Austin-Happy Trails to you until we meet in April!

Donna Dauenhauer

NEW MEMBERS

<p>Monica and Michael Boyle 703 E 49 St, Unit A Austin, TX 78751 847-302-6750 boylegirls@gmail.com</p> <p>Vivian and Douglas Byrkit 8405 Carranzo Drive Austin, TX 78735 925-575-1595 vbyrkit@pacbell.net 512-761-3591 moved from New Jersey</p> <p>Kathy Clark & Bill Menzies 217 Piedmont Hills Pass Austin, TX 78732 913-526-3249 kclark64@austin.rr.com 512-243-7076 moved from Washington DC</p>	<p>Shahida & Mahmood Khan 2930 Grand Oaks Loop, #2601 Cedar Park, TX 78613 501-515-0761 shahidakhan@sbcglobal.net 501-515-1226 moved from Little Rock, AR</p> <p>Luann Kreyche 4411 Spicewood Springs Road #902 Austin, TX 78759 512-983-4012 lkreyche@hotmail.com 512-983-4012 moved from Sacramento, California</p>	<p>Bob and Jan Peto 6409 Mirarosa Dr Austin, TX 78739 719-244-0957 bobpeto1@icloud.com 719-244-0957 moved from Colorado Springs, CO</p> <p>Greg & Nancy Shipley 5812 Tributary Ridge Dr Austin, TX 78759 832-236-9909 gshipley14@me.com</p>
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HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS

<p>3/01 Patricia Barton 3/01 Sharon Dismore 3/01 Katy Francis 3/01 Jane Hoffman 3/03 Teri Hejny 3/04 Sandra M Fox 3/04 Barbara McCollum 3/04 Paul Gregory 3/04 Mat Moten 3/05 Ben A Meharg 3/06 Bonnie Kelly 3/06 Suzie McCann 3/06 Carl Berman, Jr. 3/06 Jerry Beck 3/07 Sue Taylor 3/08 Jayne Polly 3/08 Bill Menzies 3/09 Carol Unruh</p>	<p>3/09 Penny Jamrack 3/09 Mike McGuyer 3/09 Charles Brown 3/10 Merry Balis 3/10 Durgesh Mohanty 3/10 David Jenkins 3/11 Nancy Linser 3/11 Bob Banish 3/13 Anu Chhabra 3/15 Mary Coneway 3/15 Bob Wampler 3/16 Susan Sellinger 3/16 Betty Chang 3/16 Kathy Cundiff 3/18 Marjorie K. Sinton 3/19 Jim King 3/19 Joseph D. Stafford 3/20 Ruth Bolsen</p>	<p>3/20 Terry Witt 3/20 George Lowe 3/21 Sajida Baqai 3/21 Brenda Goforth 3/21 Sandra Ladd 3/21 Jim Haeg 3/22 Lou Blemaster 3/22 Betty Lou Woody 3/22 Marsha Steinback 3/23 Becky Walseth 3/25 Marion Werner 3/27 Darlene Mahanay 3/29 Elaine Doege 3/29 Brandon Jones 3/29 Terry Richardson 3/30 Inge Eichberg 3/30 Rickey D. Hale</p>
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March 2016

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

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 DINNER RESERVATION
for Wednesday, March 16th (Reservations deadline is Friday, March 11th)

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.

RSVP

Reservation absolutely required!

Buffet Price: \$30.00 if received by March 11th

No reservation requests after March 11th

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 Drive
Austin, TX 78759

Reservations due by Friday, March 11th

Allow 3 days for delivery.

Cancellations due by Friday, March 11th

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

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

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

The Welcome Mat Staff

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Proof readers Kathy Jones
Iris Groten

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