ANC December Luncheon Welcomes The University of Texas Longhorn Singers

The final ANC luncheon of the year on December 12 will be a fun event for us as we will be entertained again this year by the University of Texas Longhorn Singers (UTLS). The UTLS are celebrating their 60th anniversary this year.

The Longhorn Singers are the official show choir of the University of Texas at Austin. They number 34 members and average between 15 and 20 performances a semester.

Each fall they travel to Dallas for the UT vs OU game and sing multiple gigs over three days. The Friday before the game, they are on local radio opposite the OU Men’s Glee Club for their own Red River Rivalry.

They are a diverse group, not limited to voice majors, and have vocalists from almost every college at UT. In the past they were a part of the Butler School of Music, but for the last few years, they have been an independent organization and are entirely student-led. UTLS pay their director, pay for performance space, travel and handle administration fees; raising funds through donations, performances and dues.

Several members of ANC have sung with UTLS in the past. They and the rest of us will certainly enjoy hearing these talented young people at our December luncheon.

Where: Chez Zee Bistro
5406 Balcones Dr. Austin 78731

When: December 12, 2018
11:00 a.m. - social hour
12:00 p.m. - lunch & program

Cost: $30/person

Pay online before noon, December 7, or mail in your check and reservation form (page 14) by December 5.
Greetings Friends,

Aren’t we lucky to live in Austin because of the live music and because Austin draws iconic performers like Paul McCartney? Did you know that Austin was one of two US cities he performed in this year? I was at the ACL music festival for Paul’s performance. The evening was so memorable because it carried me away to 1964 when I watched the Beatles on the Ed Sullivan Show. Thinking about this recent experience reminds me that music is a venue that brings us all together...

If you hunger to gather with friends to share great food and great music, be sure to sign up for our monthly luncheon, showcasing the UT Longhorn Singers. What a treat to be entertained by these young adults with so much talent. We enjoyed their performance so much last year we invited them back. Let’s all come together on December 12th and enjoy magical moments. I encourage everyone that attends the December Luncheon to get into the spirit of the season by wearing a “holiday” sweater.

I hope you have a wonderful December by spending time with people you love and that you look forward to 2019 with excitement and more ANC fun times.

Valerie
Daytrippers - Gonzales, TX

When: Saturday, December 1

Hosts: Susi Spies and Dale Truitt

Cost: Pay individually for lunch, fees, etc.

RSVP: Email to express interest ASAP to Susi.

Details: Is anybody up for a mini “Daytripping” adventure to Gonzales to partake in their annual historic homes tour? We can also hit the town’s fabulous architectural salvage shop and do lunch and maybe tour the Gonzales jail. At one point, Gonzales was the capital of Texas and probably the state’s wealthiest city. Its citizens built big, beautiful homes that still exist and are featured during the annual home tour. If enough people are interested and have time in early December, we’ll go. Otherwise, we will wait for a jaunt in January or February.

Chairs: Susi Spies, susi.spies@gmail.com, (310) 291-4150
Dale Truitt, daledtruitt@gmail.com

Live Music!

The Long Center Presents: “Graham Reynolds Ruins the Holidays, Part Deux”

When: December 11, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Rollins Studio Theater/ The Long Center
701 W. Riverside Drive, Austin 78704
Dona and George Reynolds
1403 Walnut Avenue, Austin 78702

Cost: Tickets are $25. Purchase from the Long Center. Purchase ASAP as this event will sell out.

RSVP: If joining the Reynolds at their home for a holiday drink after the performance, contact Dona.

Details: Composer and bandleader, Graham Reynolds, along with some of Austin’s best musicians wreak musical havoc with an explosive set of holiday favorites. By playing most of them in a minor key, Reynolds and his band bring a new perspective to these season standards for the second year in a row at the Rollins Theatre. Get ready for a set that is raucous, rocking, beautiful, introspective—and everything in between.

Chair: Dona Reynolds
gldr@hotmail.com, 713-560-9663

Called “the quintessential modern composer” by the London Independent, Austin-based composer-bandleader-improviser Graham Reynolds creates, performs, and records music for film, theater, dance, rock clubs, and concert halls with collaborators across a multitude of disciplines.
New Year's Pops Concert
“Ella & Louis”
December 30, 8 p.m.
Palmer Event Center
900 Barton Springs Road

Host: Pattie Webster Schieck
Cost: $49 per person. Register and pay online at ANC website by November 25. These tickets must be paid in full in advance. Patti must purchase all the tickets for our group on November 26th. These tickets will sell out within days of the opening of ticket sales.

Come join us! This is our 5th year to attend the pops event. Byron Stripling and Carmen Bradford will take you on a journey through the most famous duets and solos recorded by two of jazz’s greatest legends - Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald. Featuring hits of the Great American Songbook, they recreate one of the most memorable collaborations in music history while entertaining and capturing everyone’s heart along the way.

Bring your favorite food dish and enjoy this concert in a cabaret-style setting. We will sit at tables of 10, so bring a large dish to pass around and share. There is a cash bar for wine, beer, and soda onsite.

Please come when doors open at 7 p.m. or soon after. This will give us time to enjoy our appetizers/deserts before they turn down the lighting.

Our seats will be in the second half of the cabaret seating section. Patti will pick up the tickets at Will Call and distribute in the lobby of the Palmer Event Center. If you arrive after 7:30, you will need to text Patti to pick up your ticket @ 512-924-9923 as she will have taken her seat.

Dixieland Jazz
When: Sunday, January 6th, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Where: Cap City Comedy Club
8120 Research Blvd, Suite 100
Host: Glynda Eschle
Cost: Pay at the door $8.00 per person.
RSVP: By January 3 to Glynda Eschle, 512-288-1503 or glynda.eschle@sbcglobal.net.
Details: Come join us for some great Dixieland Jazz presented by the Austin Traditional Jazz Society. The band is Hal Smith’s On The Levee Jazz Band. The setting is casual with social visiting between songs. Swing or slow dance to suit your style on the dance floor. Doors will open at 1:00 p.m. Band will play 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tables will be reserved for our group. Please RSVP to Glynda. She has to give a headcount to the Comedy Club for food preparation and table set up. See details at austinnewcomers.com and in the next issue of the Welcome Mat.

Texas Advanced Computing Center Tour
When: January 15th, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Where: Pickle Research Campus, Burnett Road
Host: A.E.Martin, 512-301-9070, aemartin@austin.rr.com, or text 512-940-1434
Cost: $3.00 for parking/pay at meet up area
RSVP: By January 12th. Tour is limited to 20 people. All names must be submitted 2 days before the visit.
Details: In 2018, a new National Science Foundation-funded petascale computing system, Frontera, was awarded for deployment at the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC). When deployed, Frontera will be one of the most powerful supercomputers in the world, and the fastest supercomputer on a university campus. More information at austinnewcomers.com and in the January issue of the Welcome Mat.
Welcome New Members

Jan Horning
206-228-1944
janhorning@gmail.com

Adrienne Hamilton
806-787-9001
akh12ham@gmail.com

Betty Godwin
8818 Travis Hills Drive, 917, Austin 78735
919-449-4989
bettygodwin12@hotmail.com

Nikki Stromp
512-636-0009
lovehappydog@gmail.com

Michael & Carolyn Furtney
247 Mendocino Lane, Austin 78737
661-747-2147
carolynfurtney@gmail.com

Jenny Tynes
4109 Travis Country Circle, Austin 78735
512-415-9303
jtynesrealtor@yahoo.com

Pat Guarino
7803 Huddleston Lane, Austin 78745
512-578-8100
2cruisin@sbcglobal.net

Jessica & David Cohen
630-297-1018
thecohenfamily2009@gmail.com

Princess and Mark Aschermann
832-367-9856
princess.aschermann@gmail.com

Antra & Tim Getzoff
6904 Telluride Trail, Austin 78746
214-235-8014
antrrra@gmail.com

Knauss
2302 Gila Pass, Austin 78734
415-860-3211
cesimko@gmail.com

Save the Date

Welcome Party for New Members

Sunday, January 27th, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Please come and meet fellow Austin Newcomers, board members and our many interest-group chairs and learn about all we have to offer our members each month.

Couples please bring a hearty appetizer AND a beverage to share. Singles please bring a hearty appetizer OR a beverage to share.

Questions? Contact memberservices@austinnewcomers.com.
**Holiday Happy Hour**

**When:** Tuesday, December 18, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

**Where:** Driskill Hotel Bar (upstairs)
604 Brazos Street

**Cost:** Separate checks.
Cost of food, drinks and parking.

**RSVP:** [Online] by December 17.

**Details:** Named one of the 10 Best Hotel Bars in America by USA Today and The Best Bar in Texas by Southern Living. Downtown parking & valet parking. (Possible discount on valet parking with validated bar ticket.)

**Chairs:** Charlie Brown, 512-994-6709, charlieb7127@gmail.com
Saj Maqsood, sajidmaqsood268@gmail.com

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**Come to Dinner Bring a Plate**

Come to Dinner – Bring a Plate is a monthly dinner group for single ANC members who enjoy cooking and socializing. We meet in small groups in a member’s home.

Contact the chair to be placed on the list to receive a monthly invitation. You will receive an email after the first of the month with the date and host. Please RSVP upon receipt of email, NOT online. Once the guest list is complete, the hostess sends out menu information and the address and directions to attendees. Each guest brings a dish.

When you join the list, we expect a commitment to be a host or co-host at least once every 12-18 months.

**Chair:** Lynne Marcus, Lmarcus08@gmail.com

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**Out-to-Lunch Bunch**

No Lunch Bunch in December. We’ll definitely be lunching in the new year so stay tuned. Enjoy the holidays and get ready for lots of Lunch Bunch fun in the year ahead!

**Chair:** Susi Spies, susi.spies@gmail.com

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**Friends Connection Brunch**

**When:** Sunday, December 9th at 1:30 p.m.

**Where:** 1886 Café, Driskill Hotel
604 Brazos St, 78701

**Cost:** Separate checks, medium price range

**RSVP:** [Online] by Friday, December 7th

**Details:** Our December brunch will be at the 1886 Cafe in the Driskill Hotel. The quaint Victorian-style cafe serves delicious traditional Texas comfort foods that combines time honored original recipes with contemporary preparation.

Friends Connection is for singles (or not), but couples are always welcome too. We hope you will feel the holiday spirit and join us for another fun time together with old and new friends.

There is free street parking downtown on Sundays; if that’s not available, there are parking garages on Brazos to the north and to the south of the hotel and the Driskill has valet parking (for a fee).

**Chair:** Lynne Davis, elcdavis@sbcglobal.net, 512-368-5660

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**TGI Social - (Thank Goodness It’s Social)**

There will be no TGI Social for December.
Hope to see everyone in January, 2019!

**Chairs:** Janie and Jim McClam, jlmcclam@icloud.com
Art House Cinema North

When: Saturday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Cost: $1/person at the door

RSVP: RSVP to email sent to group each month. No deadline but there is a limit to meeting size. If you are new, please sign up online.

Details: Each month the group selects a film to see before the next meeting. We see the film and then discuss and rate it as a group as well as select a film for the following month. This is our annual holiday meeting so the date and time have changed to Saturday, December 15th at 6:00 p.m. Details of the upcoming gatherings for this group are sent in a separate email to group participants with details about the movie selection, location, and any additional information that they need.

Chair: Beth Knight, knightfe57@hotmail.com, (806) 368-1088

Cinema South

When: Friday, December 14, 7 p.m.,

Only one meeting date in December.

Cost: $1/person at the door

RSVP: All members currently on the Art House Cinema South email list will receive an email with details about this event. If you are new, sign up online. Meetings fill up fast so RSVP as soon as possible.

Details: We meet at homes of members and discuss and rate two movies selected the previous month. Members choose to attend one of two meetings each month, on either the second or fourth Friday. Each host sets the maximum capacity they can accommodate. Details of meetings will be sent ahead of meeting dates via email once first timers have responded via online and have been added to the email list.

Chairs: David/Joan Saidel, dpsaidel@gmail.com 512-666-7704
David/Pattie Schieck, deschieck@yahoo.com 512-924-9923

Critics’ Corner

When: Friday, December 14, 7:30 p.m.

Details: Critics’ Corner meets at 7:30 on the second Friday of each month. Our next meeting will be on the 14th of December at 7:30pm. Details of the upcoming gathering, including meeting location and movie selection, are emailed to group participants prior to the meeting. Members see the movie on their own, then meet at the designated member’s house for a discussion of the movie. All attendees are asked to bring a hearty appetizer or dessert and a beverage. Visitors are welcome. Email Tom Taylor for information.

Chair: Tom Taylor, tomtaylor9@gmail.com, 214-642-3873
**Afternoon Mystery Book Group**

**When:** Wednesday  
December 12, 12:00 p.m.

**Host:** Doreen Hyde  
3205 Desert Willow Cove  
78735

**RSVP:** By Monday, December 10, to doreen1963@gmail.com

**Details:** Please note that this December meeting will start an hour earlier - 12:00 Noon. This month we will have a pot-luck lunch, a white elephant book exchange and our regular meeting. Book: *A Curious Beginning* by Deanna Raybourne.

**Chair:** Susan Nichols  
sunichols222@gmail.com  
512-346-9859

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**Men’s Book Club**

There will be no meeting of the Men’s Book Club in December.

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

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**Bluebonnet and Yellow Rose Book Clubs**

We do not meet in December. Next meeting is on January 24. The title of the book to be reviewed is *Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid

**Bluebonnet Chairs:**

Jayne Polly, jpolly3838@gmail.com  
Alison Seaman, alisonseaman@yahoo.com  
Dina Steiner, dinasteiner@gmail.com

**Yellow Rose Chairs:**

Gayle Cannon, gayle.cannon70@gmail.com  
Lou Blemaster, loublemaster@gmail.com

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**Hello Austin! 2019 Events**

Detailed information about these events will be posted online and in future issues of the Welcome Mat.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 31</td>
<td>Esther’s Follies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Governor’s Mansion Tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>UT Makers Lab (3D Lab) Tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>SXSW</td>
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<td>March</td>
<td>Rodeo</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Bike Tour for Members &amp; Grandchildren</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Bocce</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Kayak-Paddleboard</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Chaetura Canyon Bird Sanctuary Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Shakespeare in the Park</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>Top Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June or July</td>
<td>Roller Derby</td>
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<tr>
<td>June or July</td>
<td>Zack Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 4, 7</td>
<td>“Fire and Air”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Zack Performance - “Ann”</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Lake Travis Boat Tour</td>
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Knit ‘n Stitch

When: Thursday, December 6, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Host: Sheila Daily
2305 Barton Creek Blvd., Unit 5, Austin 78735
RSVP: Register online or email Deborah by Tuesday, December 4.
Details: Space is limited and an RSVP is required to attend.
Chair: Deborah Marks, dmarksny@aol.com

Photography

Photo Shoot
When: December 11, 10:30 a.m.
Host: Bruce Lande
13409 Crystal Way Austin 78737
Cost: Free
RSVP: Not necessary
Details: This month Photography Group member Bruce Lande will provide some instruction on architectural photography for MLS type listings and then we will practice what we learned. Participants should have a tripod, wide angle lens, and a camera with the capability of shooting bracketed exposures at differing exposure values.

Photo Share
No Photo Share in December. Photos from the December Photo Shoot will be shown in January. Happy Holidays!

Chair: Bernie Mayoff
bernie@mayoff.com, (972) 670-2099

What is Your Interest Group Doing?

Send your event photos to George Lowe at historian@austinnewcomers.com and we will publish them online and in the Welcome Mat.
French Conversation

The French Conversation Group will not meet at the usual time in December. Watch for an email (or contact the chair at: dccavin@hotmail.com) to get details of our meeting.

Details: This is a monthly lunch and conversation time, on a topic designated in advance, for those who already speak intermediate or advanced French. We rotate hosting the group in our homes, so there is a practical limit to its size, but francophone new members are accepted whenever space allows. Newcomers interested in joining us are asked to email the chair, Deborah Cavin. RSVPs for our monthly meetings are required, and the hostess then shares detailed directions.

Chair: Deborah Cavin, dccavin@hotmail.com
512-401-3831

Expats

When: December 15, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Hosts: Inge & Jorg Eichberg
221 Trading Bend, Austin 78735
RSVP: December 8th to sharonktravel@gmail.com

Details: We enjoy sharing our overseas experiences and being with members who are from outside the US. If you are curious about other cultures, while sharing yours or your overseas travel experiences, please join us at our monthly gatherings. Each individual or couple is requested to bring a large appetizer and a bottle of wine for a stand-up, mix-and-mingle supper.

If you have questions, email expats@austinnewcomers.com.
Chair: Sharon King, sharonktraveler@gmail.com

Spanish Conversation

No meeting in December.

Chair: Susana Surbek, 512-740-2349
susana.surbek@hotmail.com
**Canasta**

**When:** Mondays, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Where:** Café Blue (new location)
12800 Hill Country Blvd., G-115
Hill Country Galleria, Bee Cave

**RSVP:** Sunday before gameday
canasta@austinnewcomers.com

**Details:** We meet every Monday for a relaxing day playing a hand-and-foot version of Canasta, which is easy to learn. New players are invited to join in. You're welcome to play as often as you like, every week or just occasionally. We begin at 11:00 a.m., break for lunch about 12:30 p.m., and continue to play afterward. We order from the menu and get separate checks. Join us for a fun day of cards and conversation with a group of interesting ladies.

**Cost:** New players pay a one-time fee of $15 when they join to cover the cost of cards and supplies.

**Chair:** Marti Glyer, martiglyer@hotmail.com

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**Daytime Buddy Bridge**

**Details:** Welcome 2018-2019 Buddy Bridge teams! Sign-up is over for this year but we always welcome subs, so please contact us and let us know if you would like to participate. The Buddy Bridge teams are assigned a different team to play each month and these two teams choose a mutually agreeable date to play. These small groups of four are a wonderful way to get to know one another. Please call or email Sandi or Cathy for details.

**Cost:** $15

**Chairs:**
- Cathy Cotter, catcot72@gmail.com
  512-465-9472
- Sandi Ladd, sladdtx@gmail.com
  512-250-9339

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**3rd Thursday Bridge**

**When:** December 20, 10 a.m.

**Where:** IHOP
1101 South Mopac

**Host:** Nancy Cosby

**Cost:** $3.00/person

**RSVP:** Email Nancy Cosby by December 13.

**Details:** This group of average-to-expert bridge players enjoys playing together. We like the competition and challenge of party bridge and the opportunity to meet new people. Bridge is open to all.

**Chair:** Nancy Cosby, ncosby@flash.net
817-360-0494

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**Kitchen Bridge**

**When:** Wednesday, December 12 at 10 a.m.

**Host:** Deidre Brightman
18705 Waltz Court, Austin 78738

**Cost:** $2.25 paid at meeting

**RSVP:** No deadline.

**Details:** Please RSVP with Deidre, deidre1025@gmail.com or 512-750-3948, on or after December 1st.

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

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**Second Sunday Scrabble**

**When:** Sunday December 9, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Where:** Russell's Bakery
3339 Hancock Drive Austin 78731

**Cost:** Free

**RSVP:** Email Sandy by December 7.

**Details:** Join us for some fun and sample some great food and pastry at this independent Austin business.

**Chair:** Sandy Longstreth, sandytzone@juno.com

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**Canasta**

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Hill Country Galleria, Bee Cave

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**Cost:** New players pay a one-time fee of $15 when they join to cover the cost of cards and supplies.

**Chair:** Marti Glyer, martiglyer@hotmail.com
**Mah Jongg**

**When:** December 13 & December 27, 1:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Central Market, 4001 N Lamar (upstairs)  
**Cost:** Free  
**RSVP:** No Deadline  
**Details:** This group plays the American Version of Mah Jongg and uses The National Mah Jongg League card. We welcome anyone who is interested to join us.  
**Chair:** Marsha Hoffer, mhoffer@gmail.com

**Bunco**

**When:** December 18, 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
**Host:** Priscilla Gabbi  
**Where:** Location will be given when you respond  
**Cost:** $5  
**RSVP:** By December 14 to priscilla@planetgabbi.com  

**Details:** Please contact Connie Gardner if you are interested in becoming a regular playing member or substitute.  
**Chair:** Connie Gardner, peplett@aol.com, 915-203-4522

**Mexican Train at Jack Allen’s**

Mexican Train is cancelled in December due to a conflict in scheduling. See you in January.  
**Chair:** Eugenie Whalen, eswhelan@sbcglobal.net, 512-608-0010

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Photos from Hello Austin! TX State Cemetery Tour October 29
**Health & Fitness**

**Happy Trails**

**When:** Saturday, December 1, 9:00 a.m.

**Where:** Greenbelt at Reunion Ranch
415 Jacksdaw Drive, Austin 78737

**RSVP:** Online

**Details:** Diane Gallagher is kindly stepping in for me to lead this Saturday walk. I am having a knee replacement soon, so I am happily accepting Diane’s kind invitation to lead. Let’s celebrate the holidays with a leisurely walk on the greenbelt trails of the beautiful southwest Austin development of Reunion Ranch. You will begin the hike in front of Diane and Carl Gallagher’s home, 415 Jacksdaw Drive, and walk about 3/4 mile in the neighborhood before entering the paved trail. The 2.5 mile wooded trail features man-made ponds and area wildlife. Following the one-hour hike, we will gather at Diane and Carl’s for coffee, cocoa and cookies. As always, please bring water and dress for the weather. I wish you all a very happy holiday season. I hope you continue walking the lovely trails in Austin. I will resume sharing more Happy Trails with you in the Spring.

**Chair:** Donna Dauenhauer
donnadau@hotmail.com, 512-852-9535

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**Golfing Around Austin**

**When:** Monday, December 10

**Where:** Course to be determined

**Cost:** Green fees vary, each individual pays at the course.

**RSVP:** Online by Sunday, December 2.

**Details:** Please register online by Sunday, December 2, 2018. We play a select best ball scramble each month, and so every golfer regardless of ability can enjoy playing. We also play a different course each month to introduce the many fine golf courses in the local area to new members. If you have any questions about the ANC golfing group or golfing in Austin in general, please feel free to contact me.

**Chair:** John Cates, jwcates3@gmail.com, 832-814-8402
Taking Care of Business

Luncheon Reservation

Price: $30 per person payable online. Online deadline is noon, December 7.

or

Send this reservation form and a check payable to Austin Newcomers Club.
Mail to Pamela Craig, 7313 Wolverine Street, Austin, TX 78757. Mail should be posted by December 5.

Name(s) ____________________________________________________________________________

Phone ________________________________

Guest _______________________________________________________________________________________

Members with dietary restrictions: An alternative menu option is available at regular monthly luncheon meetings. NOTICE IS REQUIRED WITH THE RSVP. Please include specific information regarding your restrictions. YOU ARE FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MENU SUBSTITUTIONS MADE AT THE EVENT.

Member Directory Now Available

Members can now access online a printable members-only directory. Please contact communications director Lynne Marcus at lmarcus1819@gmail.com to receive instructions and a password that will enable you to access this PDF file.

Austin Newcomers Board of Directors

Executive Officers
President       Valerie Ojeman
VP Membership   Marsha Hayden
Secretary       Dolores Carpenter
Treasurer       Linda Poyser
Meetings Director  Pamela Craig
Welcome Mat    Judy Largent
Interest Chair  Peggy Sklar
Communications Lynne Marcus

Standing Committee Chairpersons
Member Services  Monica Boyle
Member Services  Annie Prasad
Name Tags        Emily Kochanski
Co-Pарliamentarian  Marj Lowe
Historian        George Lowe
Calendar         Alison Seaman
Greeter          Shelley Smith
Co-Pарliamentarian  Susi Spies
Eblasts          Susana M Surbek
Greeter           Gail Wilson
Board Transition  Beth Oliver
Name Tags        Eugenie Whalen
Member-at-Large  Donna Withrow

AUSTINNEWCOMERS.COM
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
<th>FRI</th>
<th>SAT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Daytrippers</td>
<td>Happy Trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canasta</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>December ANC Board Meeting</td>
<td>Knit &amp; Stitch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
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<td>Second Sunday Scrabble</td>
<td>Canasta</td>
<td>Photo Shoot</td>
<td>December Luncheon</td>
<td>Mah Jongg</td>
<td>Critics’ Corner</td>
<td>ExPats Social</td>
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<td>Friends Connection</td>
<td>Golfing Around Austin</td>
<td>Live Music!</td>
<td>Afternoon Mystery Book Club</td>
<td>Kitchen Bridge</td>
<td>Cinema South</td>
<td>Arthouse Cinema North</td>
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<td>Happy Hour</td>
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<td>Hello Austin! Pops Concert</td>
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Welcome Mat

Email vpmembership@austinnewcomers.com for address corrections or changes.

Please submit your Welcome Mat articles or information about your interest group online by the first of the month preceding the publishing month (January 1 deadline for February Welcome Mat).

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