

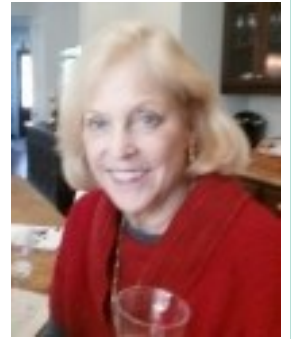


Welcome Mat

May 2021 ★ Vol. 73, No. 10

President's Message

"It's May, it's May, the lovely month of May." Almost summer, but not quite. I will get to spend Mother's Day with my adult children this year. Unlike last year when we were limited to the exchange of flowers and Zoom calls. And last month I got to go hunting for Easter eggs with my grandchildren on Easter Sunday. Recently, I, along with a few of my friends, actually went out to lunch! We were all vaccinated and sat on a lovely outdoor patio enjoying camaraderie we hadn't shared in over a year. The schools are planning on having commencement ceremonies the end of this month.



As the number of Texans being vaccinated increases, we can all feel the constraints being lifted. The incidence of disease drifts down as the vaccine creates immunity and thus less susceptibility in the population. As many of you know, I am a retired Registered Nurse. I have been volunteering at

Austin Public Health giving the Covid vaccine. I ran a travel medicine clinic before I retired. I gave travel vaccines to folks looking to travel all over the globe. For the most part, they were happy to get the vaccines as it would help keep them safe on their travels around the world. But never have I experienced the joy and relief being expressed when I give the Covid vaccine. I have had individuals burst into tears of relief and gratitude that they were finally being armed against this terrible plague. It's amazing and wonderful to share those moments.

I will offer only one Public Service Announcement. As you complete the vaccine series of two doses (or one, in the case of the Jansen, Johnson and Johnson vaccine) you will have a vaccine card. **DO NOT GET THIS CARD LAMINATED**, please. There is a possibility that booster doses may be recommended if we see significant incidence of the Covid disease variants that have been reported. If we start administering booster doses, we cannot write on laminated cards. So, just place them in a plastic sleeve instead. Take a picture with your smart phone for a digital record.



After polling the Interest Group chairs, it is apparent that some are ready to jump back into gatherings. Others are planning to require full vaccination for in-person participation. Many will see some hybrid form of gathering, in person and virtual. For some of our membership who travel to out of state vacation homes, participation by Zoom offers them a way to stay in touch with their groups who may begin to meet in person again.

ANC will follow the recommendations of the City of Austin and Travis County. Even when we start rescheduling gatherings, we will attend to the official Phase recommendations. It is important that every group and individual determine for themselves their own level of comfort. As stated in the ANC by-laws, any attendance will be the personal responsibility of individuals who seek the opportunity for interaction. As the specific groups decide to begin interacting again those activities will be highlighted in the Monthly calendar and the weekly email.



As of now, we are planning to have regular monthly luncheons recommence in September as we normally would. Typically most Interest Groups do not have regular monthly meetings during the Summer months.

Enjoy May, let's hope we get some rain to keep the lake levels up and help the farmers.

Stay well, get your vaccines and reconnect with family and friends.

~Pamela

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**May Board Meeting****When:** May 5, 10:00 am**Where:** Zoom*New Members!*

Judy Meyer
jawmeyer@hotmail.com

Andrew & June Overstreet
11400 Carnelian Dr.
Austin, TX 78739
(281) 703-7758
overstjt@gmail.com

**BOARD ELECTION**

The 2021-2022 board will be voted on in May. Here are the current nominees. If anyone would like to nominate other members to any position, please contact Lynne Davis, Chairman of Nominating Committee, at elcdavis@sbcglobal.net.

EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINEES

President:	Pamela Craig
1st VP Membership:	Marsha Hayden
2nd VP Programs:	OPEN
Luncheon Director:	Linda Poyser
Secretary:	June Overstreet
Treasurer:	Beth Hernandez
Welcome Mat Editors:	Wes & Beth Grantham
Interest Group Coordinator:	Lynne Davis
Communications:	Lynne Marcus

STANDING COMMITTEE NOMINEES

Calendar:	Bonnie Woodard
Member Services:	Pattie Webster
Historian:	Belen Benavides
Publicity:	Beth Oliver
Greeter:	Betsy Pain
Name Tags:	Gail Wilson
Board Transition:	Gloria McGiveran
Member-at-Large:	Susi Spies
Weekly Bulletin Editor:	Susana Surbek

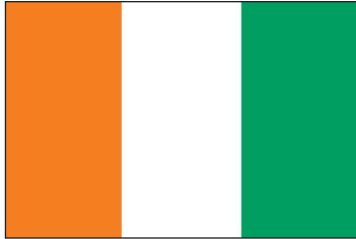


LANGUAGES

French and Spanish are spoken widely throughout the world. Choose one (or both)!

French Conversation

When: Wednesdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26, 2:00 p.m.



Flag of Ivory Coast

RSVP: By 48 hours before the meeting, to Susana.

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

Spanish Conversation

When: Mondays, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 5:00 p.m.



Flag of Spain

FOOD/SOCIAL

ANC Morning Sunshine Social

When: May 12, 11:00 am

Cost: Free

RSVP: By the day of the event.

Details: Second Wednesday of each month at 11:00 am.

It is a great opportunity to meet new friends and stay connected with old ones! It is very relaxed and casual with great conversation. Bring your coffee and join us! To RSVP email marcia@livingandlastinglegacy.com. She will send you a Zoom link ahead of time. It's just that easy! If you need help with Zoom please contact her in advance. Hope to see you there!!

Chair: Marcia Clark (512) 619-8310
marcia@livingandlastinglegacy.com



FOOD/SOCIAL

ANC Afternoon Social Hour**When:** May 28, 4:00 pm**Cost:** Free**RSVP:** By the day of the event**Details:** Last Friday of each month at 4 p.m. It is a great opportunity to meet new friends and stay connected with old ones! It is very relaxed and casual with great conversation. Come join us!To RSVP email marcia@livingandlastinglegacy.com. She will send you a Zoom link ahead of time. It's just that easy! If you need help with Zoom please contact her in advance. Hope to see you there!**Chair:** Marcia Clark (512) 619-8310
marcia@livingandlastinglegacy.com**Grandparents' Connection****When:** May 11, 10:00-11:30 am**Host:** Marcia Clark on Zoom**Details:**

- *Are you looking for ways to stay connected with your grandkids?
- *Would you like new ideas and fun activities?
- *Do you have ideas, projects, etc., that you would like to share with other grandparents?

*Join us for the Grandparents' Connection – a casual and interactive small group! We would love to have you!***What to expect:**

- Host will share a "Tip of the Month"
- Focus will be on connecting from a distance via technology and in person
- Gain new grandparent friends

Attendees: ANC Grandparents...or Aunts, Uncles, significant adult who loves kids

Sign Up: If you would like to join our group, email Marcia Clark, and she will send you a Zoom link to join. If you need help with Zoom, just email or give her a call.**Chair:** Marcia Clark (512) 619-8310
marcia@livingandlastinglegacy.com

THE FOOD CORNER

SPRINGDALE GENERAL eateries



As those of us who have been here a while know, Austin is a great place to live, and 150+ new residents arrive every day. As residential and commercial rents soar, the creative class in Austin is seeking affordable places for their small businesses. New small space, mixed use campuses like Springdale General offer a reasonable option for coffee or pastry shops, maker studios, creative office space, test kitchens, and workshops. Inside the eatery building, there are multiple small tables and outside, the patio provides covered and open seating

where patrons work on computers while snacking from one of the vendors. It's also one of the stops on the East Austin Studio Tour which will, hopefully, resume in 2021.

Julie Myrtille

One of the tenants of Springfield General is Julie Myrtille. In her patisserie it's all about the chocolate! And the butter! And the exquisitely flaky pastry! Go for the chocolate croissants and grab a baguette for later. Following surgery for a new "gear in my get-a-long", my son stayed with me for over a month. Julie Myrtille was a weekly, sometimes bi-weekly, stop on our almost daily excursions around Austin.

Julie Myrtille is the owner and French-trained pastry chef. Her skills have been noted by local media like the Austin Chronicle with "Best Austin Bakery" awards, several TV stations, and by national media as well. It's best to go online and order ahead for your favorite soup/salad/sandwich, quiche and pastry to be sure they don't sell out. Hours are currently Weds-Sun until 2pm. They cater office breakfasts and lunches. A high tea for six people is something I will definitely be trying out soon.

In January, we ordered the most amazing Galette des Rois (French King's cake) which we should have spread amongst 10 people but we didn't! In addition to the storefront off Airport Boulevard in East Austin, Julie Myrtille has booths loaded with delicacies at the Texas Farmers Markets at Lakeline and Mueller. juliemyrtille.us



Galette des Rois

Caffe Medici

Another Springdale tenant is Caffe Medici, the newest cafe and roasting facility site of Medici Roasting, an Austin based chain of coffee shops. The coffee is excellent, the baristas are friendly and the space is conducive to working while sipping your favorite beverage. Mine is the Cortado, a no-froth espresso/milk drink served in a glass. mediciroasting.com



(Continued on page 6)

FOOD/SOCIAL

SPRINGDALE GENERAL eateries

(Continued from page 5)

Uroko

Uroko is a pre-order sushi restaurant which offers to-go, make your own kits along with their popular Omakase and Sakitoro rolls. They also do on line classes. urokoaustin.com



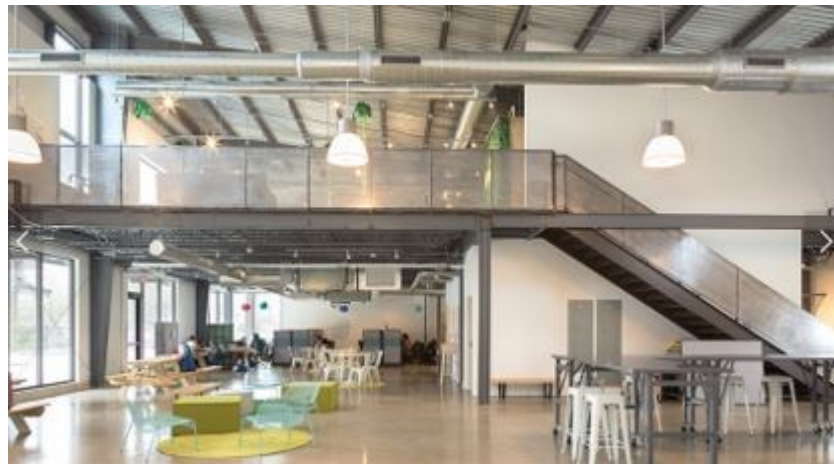
The Front Page

The Front Page is a light-hearted, pub-style restaurant. Shafer, co-owner and daytime staff, bills himself as Bartender - Poet - Texan. The interior is small but there is plenty of seating in the complex. Sandwiches are made with rolls or sourdough bread homemade on site. A family-friendly pub, it's open for lunch and dinner. As the night gets older, the crowd gets younger. One of their specialty drinks is "The Blue Stuff Barbers Put Their Combs In," which was perfect for a spring evening on the patio. The 16 beers on tap include Guinness-'nuf said! The Front Page also has food and cans of beer to go for easy pickup.

thefrontpage.pub



*Bartender Chuck
and the Blue Drink*



Springdale General
1023 Springdale Road

— submitted by Ellen Honey

Austin Newcomers hopes you are enjoying the monthly "Food Corner" feature. We encourage and welcome our members to share their experiences with restaurants they have enjoyed during the pandemic. Just send your article to Beth Oliver at beth@betholiver.com

MUSIC

Armadillo Music Group

When: Wednesday, May 19, 7:00 - 8:15 pm

Cost: None

RSVP: Friday, May 14



Zoom Host/DJ: Jim Kochanski

Details: LAST chance to experience "Armadillo Music Group" on Zoom before the summer break. This group highlights new, original Austin rock music and bands. We have

featured artists that play in the Austin venues like The Saxon Pub, Continental Club, Far Out Lounge, Dreamland, Haute Spot & others. This music interest group, will be held Wednesday, May 19, NOW FROM 7:00-8:15pm. We will be watching & listening to 2 different artists/bands with time for discussion between musical selections. This group's focus has been on having fun learning about a variety of Austin musicians, and having a unique musical experience with friends on Zoom. To RSVP for this last session, email Jim Kochanski by May 14, 2021 to receive preview info & details.

Chair: Jim Kochanski, jameskochanski@gmail.com
512-599-7735

Remembering some past music events of Austin Newcomers Club...



*Live Music at One On One
September 2019*



*Maestro Peter Bay, ASO
Luncheon Speaker, February 2020*



*UT Longhorn Singers
December 2019*

MY ANC STORY

Hello, I am Pattie. Being a member of Austin Newcomers has been one of the most rewarding decisions that I have made in my life. I moved to Austin from Memphis, TN in January 2006 to the Circle C neighborhood. Our monthly neighborhood newsletter always mentioned Austin Newcomers as a wonderful way to learn Austin and make new friends. Since the only person that I knew in town was my brother, I thought that I would go to the monthly luncheon and give it a try. My first luncheon was September of 2006. I have lots of experience in my business with meeting and engaging new people. The ladies at the door welcomed me with open arms and made me feel like they had known me for years. This made a huge impression on me and I joined the club that day. I was so impressed that I asked what I could do for the club. They needed a publicity board member, and the rest is history. I have filled most all of the board positions including President and many leadership positions in the interest groups. My membership has led to many cherished friendships in the club. Joining Newcomers was the best decision that I have made since I moved to Austin.



Hello, I am David. Pattie had a head start, in regard to joining Austin Newcomers. I did not sign up for Newcomers until 2013. I was friends with Doug and Charlotte Slack, and I was interested in photography. I found out they had started a photography Newcomers interest group. They invited me to join.

This led to participation in a newcomers' movie group, plus others. But more importantly, it led me to the love of my life. Pattie was also a friend of the Slacks. Charlotte played matchmaker, with incredibly positive results, our marriage in 2016. Through the years I have had opportunities to participate in various leadership roles. I have served on the Board, in the position of Webmaster. Working with Pattie, we started the Hello Austin interest group. Currently we are working with Susan Holland and Robert Nutt to coordinate the Cinema South movie group.

—Pattie and David Schieck

GAMES AND HOBBIES

Mah Jongg

When: Thursday, May 13 and 27, 1:00 pm

Host: Lynne Davis (via zoom)

Details: Join us for an exciting game(s) of Mah Jongg on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Whether you

are an experienced player or fairly new to the game, we hope you will be part of our group. We are playing online using "realmahjongg.com." It's easy and fun to play. We also merge our phones (again, easy to do) and talk to each other as we play. It's almost like being together again - in person. For more information contact Lynne Davis.

Chair: Lynne Davis, elcdavis@sbcglobal.net

Knit 'n Stitch

When: Thursday, May 6, 10:30 am

Cost: None (Zoom)

RSVP: No deadline. Register online or email Arlene.

Details: We meet on the first Thursday of each month to knit, crochet, or do laptop needlework projects. Join us for crafting and conversation.

Chair: Arlene Agree, aagreezell@gmail.com
617-759-1464

HOBBIES

Photography

Photoshare

When: May 25, 11:00 am

Where: Your computer, smart phone, or tablet

Host: George McCane via Zoom

Cost: None (Zoom meeting)

RSVP: May 23

Details: The photography group is still going strong and is holding their Photoshare Meetings via Zoom. Because so many members of our group enjoy shooting different things, we shoot what we want. Some of our members enjoy having a challenge. For the month of May, our challenge is "Flowers".

It is said that April showers bring May flowers and while the forecast says that the temperatures will be hotter than normal and dryer than normal, flowers are something that still happen since the bees enjoy pollinating them.

Here are the important dates for our group for the month of May:

May 15th, deadline to submit your photographs to be processed. You are welcome to submit two photographs for other members of the group to process and show you the interpretation they had of your photograph. Every photograph tells a story. How the interpreter tells the story in their mind can be interesting. Submit your photos to me (see below). I will send you an email that I received your photographs for processing.

May 23rd, deadline to submit all photographs for our photoshare. Each person is welcome to submit a total of six photographs. If you submitted photos to be processed, then you are welcome to submit four more pictures. Submit your photographs to me (see below). I will confirm the number of photographs that I received from you.

May 23rd, deadline to request a link to our zoom meeting. Please send your request to me (see below).

May 25th, our Photoshare happens at 11:00 A.M. Our meet-

ings last for approximately one hour, but can go longer depending on how many photographs are submitted. We typically start letting people in five minutes early to the Photoshare.

Chair: George McCane
photoman401@gmail.com
512-981-0196



BOOK GROUPS

Mystery Book Club

When: Wednesday, May 12, 1-3 pm

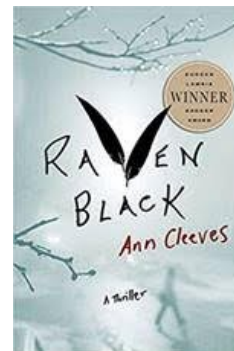
Discussion Leader: Debbi Highbarger

Cost: Free, with ANC Membership

RSVP: No deadline

Details: This month's book to be discussed will be *Raven Black*, by Ann Cleeves. To join the group and receive Zoom access information, contact Melody Chatelle, Group Coordinator.

Chair: Melody Chatelle (512) 922-4622, melody@chatelleandassociates.com



Bluebonnet and Yellow Rose Book Clubs

When: Thursday, May 27, 10:00 am

Zoom Host: Jeanette Swenson (Bluebonnet)
Gayle Cannon (Yellow Rose)

RSVP: By May 26, to Jeanette or Gayle (see addresses below)

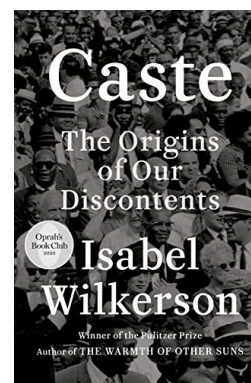
Details: We will discuss the book: *Caste*, by Isabel Wilkerson

Chairs: Bluebonnet

Jeanette Swenson 512-627-1295
jeanetteswenson64@gmail.com
Nikki Faulkner 512-994-5677
faulxhome2@aol.com

Yellow Rose

Gayle Cannon
gaylecannon70@gmail.com
Lou Blemaster
loublemaster@gmail.com



MOVIES

Cinema South

When: Friday, May 21, 7:30 pm

Host: Zoom Meeting.

RSVP: ASAP

Cost: None

Details: The movies this month will be decided at the April 16 meeting. Netflix is our source for movie selections. All members currently on the Cinema South email list will receive an email with details about the May event. If you are new,

email us (see below) to be placed on our member list.

Chairs: Susan Holland & Robert Nutt
Pattie & David Schieck
CinemaSouth@austinnewcomers.com



May 2021

All meetings listed on the calendar are Zoom meetings

For online registration, go to austinnewcomers.com, sign in, and access the calendar.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 Spanish Conversation	4	5 ANC Board Meeting French Conversation	6 Knit 'n Stitch	7	8
9	10 Spanish Conversation	11 Grandparents' Connection	12 Morning Sun- shine Social French Conversation Mystery Book Club	13 Mah Jongg	14	15
16	17 Spanish Conversation	18	19 French Conversation Armadillo Music Group	20	21 Cinema South	22
23	24 Spanish Conversation	25 Photoshare	26 French Conversation	27 Bluebonnet & Yellow Rose Book Clubs Mah Jongg	28 Afternoon Social Hour	29
30	31 Spanish Conversation					



PO Box 49841

Austin TX 78765-0841

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 (ex. January 1 is the deadline for the February *Welcome Mat*).

Members may not make commercial solicitations at any meeting or activity, nor use our directory for any commercial solicitations.

ANC Communications Staff

Lynne Marcus, director

Austin Newcomers' website - Lynne Marcus, lmarcus1819@gmail.com

Welcome Mat Editors - Beth & Wes Grantham

anc.mat.bethandwes@gmail.com

Visit our website,

austinnewcomers.com

for information about our activities
and how to become a member.

All participation by club members in any event sanctioned by the club is strictly voluntary, and the club assumes no liability of any kind. Members assume all liability for their conduct, behavior, and its consequences.