



Welcome Mat

President's Message



I know this is July, but it feels like Spring to me. New things are 'springing' up all over! Thanks to the terrific response to the Covid Vaccine, both in the number of folks choosing to get vaccinated and the truly impressive efficacy of the vaccines, the incidence of Covid cases and deaths is plummeting.

HURRAH!

This means that life is returning to the previously underappreciated **NORMAL**. Normal is having an indoor meal with friends. Normal is shopping in stores and not just online. Normal is buying tickets to the Austin Symphony 2021-22 season for wonderful indoor concerts at the Long Center. Normal is going to a theatre to see a movie, and not streaming it. Normal is going back inside our churches and temples and not just participating on a Zoom broadcast. Normal is going out for ice cream on a holiday weekend. Yes! Things are springing up all over. Ain't **NORMAL** just grand?

I know many ANC folks have been wondering when ANC will be actively engaging in inperson activities again. Well, how about NOW! Most ANC Interest Groups typically are not active during the summer months because folks travel, or it is just too hot to want to do things outdoors. You will be glad to know that Interest Group activities as well as the monthly Luncheons and Programs are returning in September, as usual. But we really felt that we needed to jump back in as soon as we could with some selected **HOT DATES** to give folks a chance to get out and see friends. You should have recently received our colorful flyer with lots of fun events for all to share; movies, the Van Gogh exhibit, ping pong, Lunch Bunch and Day Trippers, even a fun ice cream outing. This is just the first **HOT DATES** collection. There will be another later in the summer.

Meanwhile, you can contact your various Interest Group chairpersons to see if they are planning any summer activities, or are planning on commencing in September.

Our new Board of Directors was voted on in May and had the first gathering in June. As I previously discussed, most members of the Board have agreed to serve an additional year in their positions. However, we do have some outstanding new members who are also new to ANC as well. Our new Board Secretary is June Overstreet. She takes over for Monica Boyle. June has belonged to other Newcomers Clubs in other states where she has served in various Board capacities. The new Board member for Board Transition is Gloria McGiveran who replaces Emily Kochanski. Gloria has also belonged to other Newcomers Clubs and sought us out as soon as she arrived in Austin. She jumped right in to the Knit and Stitch Interest Group and is looking to join a Bridge group soon. Another new Board member is our former President, Patti Webster. Patti has agreed to take on Member Experiences to help the entire club reengage and reacquaint with each other. We are so grateful that these ladies have stepped up to help our club as we step out from under the Covid blanket and return to **NORMAL**.

We do still have a couple of Standing Committee positions that we really need to fill; those of Greeter and also Name Tags coordinator for our monthly luncheon gatherings. Please contact Lynne Davis (who continued in her role of Nominating Committee Chair) if you want to know more about these Board roles.

This July Fourth bodes well for picnics and fireworks. The biggest concern in more than a year will be the weather! So **NORMAL!**

Happy 4th of July ~Pamela



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July Board Meeting**When:** July 7, 10:00 am**Where:** Zoom**MEMBERSHIP**

Welcome New Members!

Anne LeClair
5821 Mount Bonnell Rd
Austin, TX 78731
650-346-6235
annehall.leclair@gmail.com

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3098 Reunion Blvd
Austin, TX 78737
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Austin, TX 78729
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512-903-7432
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Trisha Gunn
tpgunn@aol.com

Greer Hawkins
207 Lisa Drive
Austin, TX 78733
952-412-5097
ghawkins1033@gmail.com

LANGUAGES

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

French Conversation**When:** Wednesdays, July 7, 14, 21, 28, 2:00 p.m.**Spanish Conversation****When:** Mondays, July 5, 12, 19, 26, 5:00 p.m.

Flag of Switzerland

RSVP: By 48 hours before the meeting, to Susana.**Chair:** Susana Surbek 512-740-2349
susana.surbek@hotmail.com

Flag of Peru

THE FOOD CORNER

Have a hankering for Italian food? Several of my favorite Italian restaurants in North Austin have closed recently - like the Brick Oven on Jollyville Road and the Macaroni Grill on Research Boulevard, but Carrabba's Italian Grill on 11590 Research Boulevard is still going strong!

One afternoon recently, I decided that it was definitely time for Italian. I checked out Carrabba's online to-go menu. Mercy! It had everything – "Family Bundle" dishes, appetizers, salads, lunch specials, steaks and chops, and every type of pasta imaginable, plus desserts. It even had bottles of wine to-go!

The spaghetti with meatballs I ordered came with a Caesar salad and Italian bread with an olive oil and herb mix for dipping the bread in. Perfect!

The order would be ready for me to pick up in 15 minutes. Yes, 15 minutes! (Of course, I could have chosen a different time.) I hopped in my car and drove the 1.1 miles from my house to Carrabba's, parked in front, and walked to the door. Oops. A note said to pick up food-to-go at the back of the restaurant. Alrighty. I drove around back.



Before I had time to call in to say I was there, a gal showed up with a big carry-out bag of my order. On my to-go order I had to include the make, model, and color of my car. Not being a car person, I had to walk out to my garage to check the model of my car. Aha! I'll know for next time. Carrabba's is open 11AM-10PM Monday – Thursday, 11 AM-11PM Friday and Saturday, and 11AM- 9PM on Sunday. Phone (512) 345-8232. Dining-in, curbside pickup, and "no contact delivery" are all available. I'm already eyeing Chicken Marsala for my next order!

— submitted by Beth Oliver

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



CARRABBA'S
ITALIAN GRILL®



AROUND AND ABOUT AUSTIN

Art Treks

Art Treks is returning in September! This was such an entertaining activity before, I know we've all missed it. I have some exciting and creative ideas, but am looking for more. If you have suggestions for artsy, fun, or inspirational group outings, please let me know. Maybe there's something you have wanted to try or wish to do again. (The activity year is September thru May)

Please send me your ideas at the address below, or contact me by phone. I so look forward to your ideas!

Chair: Karen Werner, karentwerner20@aol.com
817-896-4905



The Contemporary Austin



GAMES

Mah Jongg

When: Thursday, July 8 and 22, 1:00 pm

Host: Lynne Davis (via zoom)

RSVP/Registration: 24 hours in advance

Details: Join us for an exciting game 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 have been playing online using "realmahjongg.com," but hope to soon be playing in person again.

For more information contact Lynne Davis.

Chair: Lynne Davis, elcdavis@sbcglobal.net

HOBBIES

Knit 'n Stitch

When: Thursday, July 1, 10:30 am

Where: Home of Barbara McCollum
129 Clear Pond Cove, Austin 78737

Cost: None

RSVP: No deadline. Register online or email Arlene.

Details: Barbara asks that you come only if you are fully vaccinated. We meet on the first Thursday of each month to knit, crochet, or do laptop needlework projects. Join us for crafting and conversation. Note that this month we are meeting live, but we will also send out a link for those who would rather join us on Zoom.

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

HOBBIES

Photography

Photoshare

When: July 27, 11:00 am

Where: Your computer, laptop, smart phone, or tablet

Host: George McCane via Zoom

Cost: None (Zoom meeting)

RSVP: July 25



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 July, our challenge is "Blue Hour Photography".

Blue hour photography was chosen because it is very hot during the months of July and August (August will be Golden Hour Photography). During this period, the sky is literally blue. It happens about one half hour before sunrise and one half hour after sunset.

Here is a table for July 5th, 2021. The times for the rest of the month will vary slightly the later in the month we get.

Date	Twilight starts	Sunrise	Sunset	Twilight Ends	Twilight Dur.
07.05.2021	04:41	05:22	20:46	21:28	41 min

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

July 17th, 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), and I will send you an email that I received your photographs for processing.

July 25th, 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), and I will confirm the number of photographs that I received from you.

July 25th, deadline to request a link to our zoom meeting. Please send your request to me (see below).

July 27th, our Photoshare happens at 11:00 A.M. Our meetings 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

MOVIES

Art House Cinema North

When: Friday, July 9, 7:00 pm

Host: Zoom Meeting

Details: Each month we discuss a different movie. The movie

this month will have been chosen at the June meeting. If you have any questions, please contact one of us.

Chairs: Bill Edwards wmedwards191@gmail.com
210-274-4496
Ann Edwards annann@austin.rr.com
512-799-1148

Cinema South

When: Friday, July 16, 7:30 pm

Host: Zoom Meeting.

RSVP: ASAP

Cost: None

Details: The movies this month will be chosen at the June 18 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 July event. Please let us know (see below) if you would like to be placed on our member list.

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



BOOK GROUPS

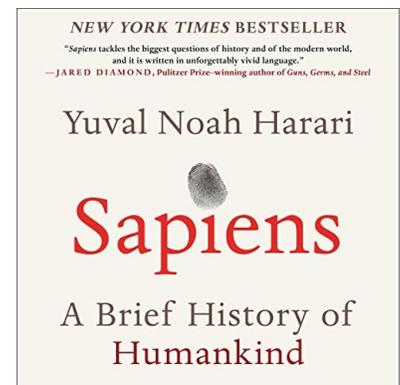
Bluebonnet and Yellow Rose Book Clubs

When: Thursday, July 22
10:00 am Social time
10:30 — 12:00 Discussion

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

RSVP: By July 21 to Jeanette or Gayle (see addresses below)

Details: We will discuss *Sapiens, A Brief History of Humankind*, by Yuval Noah Harari



Chairs: Bluebonnet
Jeanette Swenson 512-627-1295
jeanetteswenson64@gmail.com
Nikki Faulkner 512-994-5677
faulhome2@aol.com

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

July 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 Knit 'n Stitch	2	3
4	5 Spanish Conversation	6	7 ANC Board Meeting French Conversation	8 Mah Jongg	9 Art House Cin- ema North	10
11	12 Spanish Conversation	13	14 French Conversation	15	16 Cinema South	17
18	19 Spanish Conversation	20	21 French Conversation	22 Bluebonnet & Yellow Rose Book Clubs Mah Jongg	23	24
25	26 Spanish Conversation	27 Photoshare	28 French Conversation	29	30	31





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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.