

Welcome Mat

President's Message



I hope everyone had a wonderful 4th of July and is enjoying wherever they are spending the summer. I spoke to a young woman who moved into my neighborhood from Montreal, Canada and she said that she thought she had heat exhaustion after a day of running in and



out of stores to get her errands done. The upside of that is that we ate Christmas dinner outside on the picnic table.

True story, we did that in 2019. I hope that everyone is doing fun things to escape the heat. You will be able to find my family out on Lake Travis on some weekends. If you are

out of town, enjoy! Hopefully we will see you September 21st at our fall kickoff luncheon.

We would love to see you at more of the Austin Newcomer activities. Whether you are new in town or newly retired, we have something for everyone. I know that Canasta, Mah

Jongg, Game Night to name a few are meeting all summer. Check out the Welcome Mat for everything that is happening this month. Most of the interest groups are active, but if there is something you would like to do or don't see, contact Lynne Davis, Interest Group Coordinator at elcdavis@sbcglobal.net or myself at beth8021@gmail.com. We would love to hear your ideas for activities or how you think we could do better.



Keep an eye out for the surprise Hot Dates coming soon to an email inbox near you. One of the things you could do to get involved is to be the hostess (point person) for some of the hot dates. Everything will be set up for you; you just have to host and greet people who show up. Contact me if you are interested.

I am excited with the people we have on this year's Board of Directors. We have some brand-new people joining us this year to help out. We will be meeting this month to plan the year ahead. Check the Welcome Mat for upcoming events. I am looking forward to meeting more of you when we are out seeing the sites! Stay Cool!

~Beth Hernandez

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August Board Meeting

August 3, 10:00 - 12:00

Home of Lynne Davis

Welcome New Members!

Bobroff-Hajal & Hajal
abobroffhajal@gmail.com

Manon & John Messainguiral
manon.messainguiral@gmail.com

Jean Breton
jeanb.austin@yahoo.com

Judy Cynor
 301 West Ave #1709
 Austin, TX 78701
 410-299-0760
judycynor@hotmail.com

Kathleen T. Mendoza
 1313 Verdant Way
 Austin, TX 78746
 512-965-6128
kathymendoza1@gmail.com

Donna Hood
donnahood@whidbey.com

BOOK GROUPS

Bluebonnet and Yellow Rose Book Clubs

When: Thursday, August 25, 10:00 am

Book for August: *After the Last Border*, by Jessica Goudeau

Bluebonnet Details

Where: Home of Alison Seaman

RSVP: By Tuesday, August 23

Chairs: Alison Seaman alisonseaman@yahoo.com
 Jayne Polly jayne.polly@hotmail.com

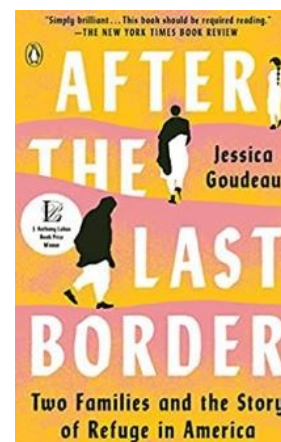
Yellow Rose Details

Where: Home of Milli Stecker

RSVP: By August 18 to
milli1251@gmail.com

Cost: No fee

Chairs: Karen Rankin
karenrankin@austin.rr.com
 Susan Stein 512-636-0684
steinsusan365@gmail.com



Men's Book Club

When: August 23, 2:00 pm

Host: TBD

Address: Scotland Well Drive, Austin 78750

RSVP: August 22

Cost: 0

Details: The book for August is *How the Other Half Learns: Equality, Excellence, and the Battle Over School Choice*, by Robert Pondiscio.

Chair: Harry Polly, hpolly2323@gmail.com
 214-598-5071

"Inherently...unapologetically honest." —EILEE RUSSELL, THE NEW YORK TIMES
 "A book of genius." —LET WATKINS, WASHINGTON POST

HOW THE OTHER HALF LEARNS



Equality, Excellence, and the
 Battle Over School Choice

ROBERT PONDISCIO
 Senior Fellow at the Thomas B. Fordham Institute

FOOD/SOCIAL

July event**Lunch Bunch****(and more of last summer's "Ice Cream Social's Discovery Tour")****When:** Friday, July 22, 11:30 am**Host:** Garbo's Seafood and Lobster
Conner's Ice Cream**Address:** 12709 Mopac Expressway, Austin 78727
512-350-9814**Cost:** Separate checks**RSVP:** Wednesday, July 20, by noon, to Susi Spies

Details: It's July and super steamy and hotter than heck in Austin! Not nearly as fun as a beach vacation, so Newcomers is going to fantastically whisk you away and make you think you've been transported to the balmy shores of Maine or Nantucket or some other idyllic beachfront on the languid Eastern shores.



This month, Lunch Bunch is going to Garbo's, the lobster roll capital of Austin. They've served up more than 50,000 of these culinary crustaceans, and stopped counting long ago. They also serve whole lobster, shrimp and clams all flown in fresh, fresh, fresh from New England, plus salad and coleslaw and all the traditional sides.



Dessert? That will be a special part of the day's fun. In a salute to the start of this summer's Ice Cream Discovery Tour, this Lunch Bunch outing will offer you the best from Connor's Creamery. Their special soft serve ice cream truck is parked literally right out on Garbo's front patio for your

licking pleasure. (Check their website for flavors, toppings and special treats like Belgian waffles.)

All in all, ANC's July's Lunch Bunch will be the next best thing to summer at the shore. C'mon along; Garbo's is right off North Mopac with a huge parking lot of free parking, and even better, all that lovely lobster and ice cream!

Chair: Susi Spies susi.spies@gmail.com
310-291-4150**Come to Dinner - Bring a Plate****When:** August 27, 6 - 9 pm**Host:** Varies monthly**Cost:** See the monthly email from the chair.

Details: Come to Dinner – Bring a Plate is a monthly dinner group for single ANC members who enjoy cooking and socializing. A member hosts a dinner for group members the fourth Saturday of the month. The host determines how many guests she can host, the theme, and dishes to bring. Each guest signs up for a dish to prepare. We have a lot of fun while we share dinner.

Contact Lynne Marcus to be placed on the list to receive the monthly invitation, which is sent out early in the month.

When you RSVP, your name is added to the guest list. Once the guest list is complete, the hostess sends out menu information, with or without recipes, and the address and directions. We often have a waiting list.

When you come to dinners, we expect your commitment to host or co-host (if you have a small space) a dinner at least once every 12-18 months. Also, every attendee must be vaccinated.

Chair: Lynne Marcus, Lmarcus08@gmail.com

FOOD/SOCIAL

THE FOOD CORNER

Manuel's Great Hills

Some friends and I recently went to Manuel's, a wonderful Mexican Restaurant on Jollyville Rd in North Central Austin. I have been there many times and have never been unhappy with the experience. They have a wonderful enclosed patio with lights, fans and a huge Texas Oak tree. There always seems to be a breeze and the ambiance invites you to relax and enjoy the company of your friends.

They offer a delicious regional menu, as light or filling as you could wish. The wait staff is accommodating and are happy to split dishes for sharing. They offer separate checks if requested. Prices are moderate, \$\$.

Manuel's shares a well lit parking lot with the Regal Arbor Theater so it is easy to do dinner and a movie, never having to move your car.

Letting them speak for themselves, here's how they describe the experience you'll have:

For more than 36 years, Manuel's has served residents, politicians, musicians, and students in Austin, Texas. From the farm to the sea, we prepare Mexican food infused with delicious, savory flavors that are steeped in tradition. Our award-winning recipes and famous margaritas transport you to a place of timeless satisfaction.



UNESCO recognizes traditional Mexican cooking as an Intangible World Heritage Cuisine. As stewards of these dishes, Manuel's honors and continues this legacy.

Our food is prepared with high quality, local, and fresh ingredients. The beef, chicken, and pork are ALL NATURAL, antibiotic-free. Our seafood and fish are WILD CAUGHT from certified sustainable waters, and fish is hand-cut daily, never frozen. We feature many gluten-free, dairy-free, and vegetarian options.

Open for lunch and dinner

Sunday-Thursday 11am – 8:30pm

Friday and Saturday 11am -9:30pm

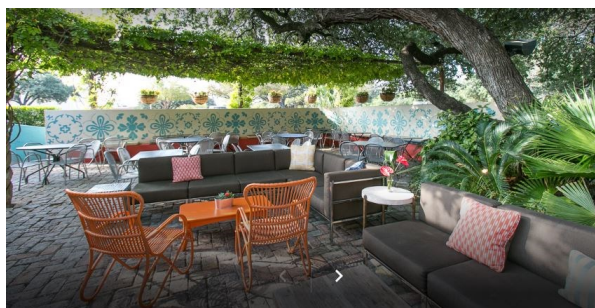
Sunday brunch 11am – 3pm

Manuel's Great Hills, 10201 Jollyville Rd, Austin, TX 78759
(512) 345-1042



— Submitted by Pamela Craig

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



GAMES

Monday Morning Mah Jongg

When: Aug. 15, 10am - 1pm
Where: Waterloo Ice House
 (note NEW LOCATION)
 9600 Escarpment Blvd
 Austin 78737
Cost: \$0
RSVP/Registration: August 14
Details: NOTE: No meeting on August 1.



What better way to start your week than with a game of American Mah Jongg? It's a friendly game and we welcome new players who want to learn, as well as experienced players. Lessons and coaching will be ongoing as needed. We will play with the current National Mah Jongg league card (please purchase the 2022 card from Nationalmahjonggleague.org). Please bring change to pay the winning hands. Separate checks will be provided for your breakfast or lunch. Please RSVP online 24 hours prior to the game. All vaccinated Austin Newcomers are welcome.

Chair: Beverly Tallinger btallinger@att.net
 408-836-0645

Thursday Afternoon Mah Jongg

When: Second and fourth Thursdays
 August 11, August 25, 1:00 pm
Where: To be determined
Cost: Minimal

RSVP/Registration: 24 hours in advance to Lynne

Details: If you enjoy playing Mah Jongg, we hope you will join our group. We play the American version of Mah Jongg and use the National Mah Jongg League card.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact Lynne Davis.

Chair: Lynne Davis, elcdavis@sbcglobal.net

Mexican Train



When: August 10, 11:00 am
Address: Jack Allen's Kitchen 360
 3600 N. Capital of Texas Hwy, Austin 78746

Cost: \$2 for prizes plus the cost of your lunch

Registration deadline: Online or email to Priscilla by Aug. 8

Details: Join us for a fun game and delicious lunch.

Chairs: Priscilla Gabbi priscilla@planetgabbi.com
 June Overstreet overstjt@gmail.com



GAMES

Canasta - Hand and Foot

When: Aug. 22, 10am - 1pm
Where: Waterloo Ice House
 (note NEW LOCATION)
 9600 Escarpment Blvd
 Austin 78749



Cost: \$0

RSVP/Registration: Aug. 21

Details: NOTE: No meeting on August 8.

Let's play Hand and Foot Canasta! It's a fun, easy card game that you play with teams. All level of players are welcome. Instructions/cheat sheet will be sent to new players when you register. Each player will be charged \$10 (cash only) at their initial game to cover the cost of the cards. Please Do Not pay online! Separate checks are available for your breakfast or lunch. Space is limited to 10 players. Please RSVP 24 hours prior to game.

Vaccinated Austin Newcomer members only.

Chair: Beverly Tallinger canasta@austinnewcomers.com
 408-836-0645

Kitchen Bridge

When: August 24, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Where: TBD

RSVP: Beginning August 1

Cost: \$1.25 at the door

Details: Members of this group may RSVP to Nancy Cosby beginning August 1. You will receive a response within 24 hours.

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



Game Night

When: August 13, 7:00 pm

Where: Bev & Jerry Tallinger's home
 3098 Reunion Blvd, Austin 78737

Cost: \$0

RSVP/Registration: August 12, midnight

Details: Game Night will be an evening filled with fun and games: cards, dice, board games, etc. None will be too complicated! Game Night will be held once a month on the second Saturday of the month at 7 pm. We are encouraging other volunteers to be a host for a month. Please bring a snack to share and your own drinks. Water and other non-

alcoholic drinks may be available. All fully vaccinated Austin Newcomers are welcome.

Chair: Jerry Tallinger gamenight@austinnewcomers.com
 408-829-0645



HOBBIES

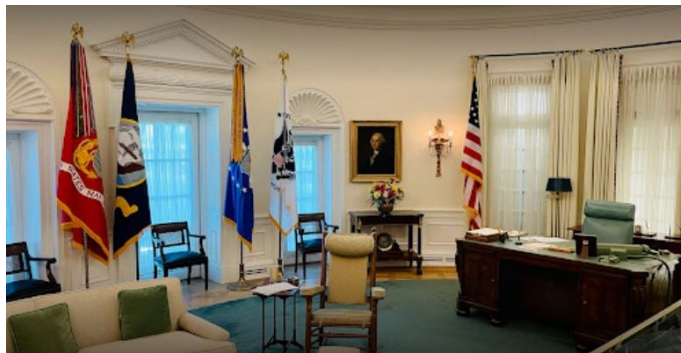
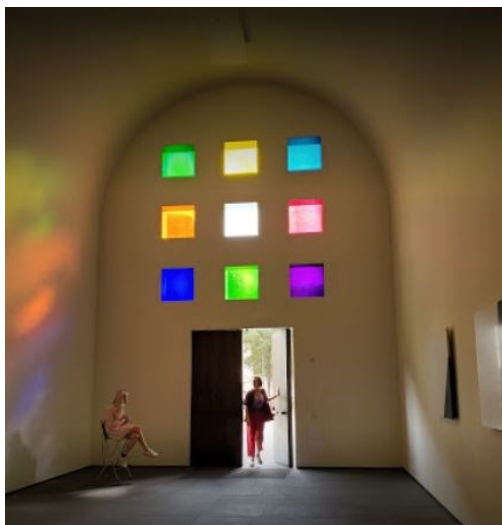
Photography: Photoshare**When:** August 23, 11:00 am**Where:** Wherever you find it convenient to be**Host:** George McCane (via Zoom)**Cost:** None**RSVP:** August 21

Details: The photography group has chosen to meet via zoom. Zoom is working well for us and with the ups and downs of different variants of Covid, has been very convenient for us.

Many of the 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 August, the challenge is "Let's head inside."

Typically in August the temperatures are very intense, so this is a perfect time to head inside. There are many museums that Austin has to offer us. Yes, there are a few that won't allow you in with a camera that you can change the lens on and they definitely will not let you use flash, but there are museums that will allow you in without a tripod. Thus, this becomes an exercise in learning to use your camera in low light situations.

A few museums that I can think of off the top of my head are the Bob Bullock Museum (I know they do not allow cameras inside, but do allow cell phones), The Blanton Museum, The Contemporary Art Museum, Mexic-Arte Museum, Elisabet



Ney Museum, the LBJ Presidential Library, the Thinkery, Museum of the Weird, Harry Ransom Center, George Washington Carver Museum, Texas Toy Museum, and others. Your interest will dictate where you go.

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

August 13th, 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. Email your photos to me, and I will send you an email that I received your photographs for processing.

August 21st, 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. Email your photographs to me, and I will confirm the number of photographs that I received from you.

August 21st, deadline to request a link to our zoom meeting. Please email me your request. I will send out a link to our meeting on August 21st as well.

August 23rd, 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. Because of the restrictions of Zoom Meetings, we must start at 11:00 so please be prompt.

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

HOBBIES

Knit & Stitch**When:** August 4, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm,**Where:** Home of Pamela Craig
7313 Wolverine St., Austin 78751**Cost:** None**RSVP:** Register online, or email Barbara by Monday,
August 1. Space is limited, so you must RSVP to attend.**Details:** We meet the first Thursday of the month to knit, crochet or do laptop needlework. Join us for coffee, crafting and conversation.**Chair:** Barbara Story barbstory@hotmail.com

MOVIES

**Cinema South****When:** Friday, August 12th and 26th, 7:00 pm**Host:** TBD**RSVP:** NA**Cost:** \$1 per person**Details:** Vaccination and boosters required. Two live meetings in August. Additional information will be emailed. To join our list, email us at the address below.**Chairs:** Paul Miller
Pattie & David Schieck
CinemaSouth@austinnewcomers.com**Arthouse Cinema North****When:** Friday, August 12th**Host:** Varies monthly**RSVP:** NA**Cost:** \$1 per person, at the door**RSVP:** Varies from month to month**Details:** We meet the second Friday of every month (except June). Send an email to Bill Edwards (address below) to ask to be put on the mailing list.**Chair:** Bill Edwards 212-274-4496
wmedwards191@gmail.com

Coming Events this Fall!

In Vino Veritas

Our group is excited to be starting back up this fall. We are looking for volunteers to host these fun and varied wine-tasting experiences. Please contact me if you would like to host or if you would like more information

Chair: Joel Longstreth joellongstreth1@gmail.com
513-238-8552



ExPats

Have you ever lived overseas? Do you like to travel and explore cultures from other parts of the world? Would you like to connect with others who have done the same? Join us at the Ex-Pat interest group to gather with others who share these interests and common experience.

The Ex-Pats meet in members' homes at 7:00 pm every other month. Our next meeting will be in September 17. Guests bring an appetizer and an adult beverage for a stand-up, mix and mingle evening. Our goal is simple - meet new people, get to know each other, and have fun.

Chair: Charlotte Bentch cbentch@gmail.com
512-695-1083

TGI Social

Watch for the September Welcome Mat. TGIS will be meeting again!!!

Chairs: Nancy Ferrin nferrin5169@gmail.com
818-681-3284
Evelyn McMillen emcmillen16@gmail.com



More Coming Events this Fall!

Daytrippers

It's too hot to go explore central Texas in the summertime, so we generally don't do any official Daytripper events during Austin's super sweaty months. Fall is coming though, and since it's been a long, long time since the pandemic would allow us to do any of our strange and wonderful outings, Dale and I wanted to share some of the events we're planning:

Dates aren't firm yet, but here's what we're thinking:

End of September: It's been six years and lots of new members have never gotten to go see the glorious Painted Churches yet, so an outing to Schulenburg and these magnificent churches is in our "first up" position at the end of the month as it gets a bit cooler

October: The famous Round Top Antique Show's best day is the second day when Marburger Farms Show opens and is full of treasures. That means we'll be going out to show you the wonders of Round Top on Tuesday, October 25th.

November and December: It's hard to fit in a late October event and then get a November event in before Thanksgiving, so we usually skip November.

December: Everybody loved the shopping/learning/lunch trip to Homestead Heritage in Waco several years ago. For those who aren't familiar with this agrarian and craft-based community, there are great demonstrations and a variety of crafts of every stripe to see and buy. We'll probably go in early-ish December.

January: No set date yet, but in January, we're really excited to take everybody to Lockhart for a Livestock/Cattle Auction.

Hundred and hundreds and hundreds of sheep, goats, horses, bulls, cows, and mothers and calves get auctioned off to local ranchers from morning til late night. It's an amazing sight and one every Texas resident should get a chance to see. After the auction, we'll all go find the best BBQ in town-- feel free to send me your preference if you have one.

That's about as far into the New Year as we've officially gotten. Other outings we're considering are the overnight to Boerne and Comfort that we had to cancel in 2019 because of the Pandemic, a tour of the Johnson Ranch (if it ever opens again--not a word yet!), and the Rodeo in Fort Worth,

Dale and I would love to hear which of these outings really excite you (we hope some will) and about anything or anyplace in Texas that you've heard about and would like see.

Thanks for your input!

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



August 2022

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 ANC Board Meeting	4 Knit & Stitch	5	6
7	8	9	10 Mexican Train	11 Thursday Mah Jongg	12 Cinema South Arthouse Cinema North	13 Game Night
14	15 Monday Morning Mah Jongg	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Canasta	23 Photography	24 Kitchen Bridge	25 Bluebonnet Book Group Yellow Rose Book Group Thursday Mah Jongg	26 Cinema South	27 Come to Dinner - Bring a Plate
28	29	30	31			





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

Jerry Tallinger, director

Austin Newcomers' website - Jerry Tallinger
Communications@AustinNewcomers.com

Welcome Mat Editors - Beth & Wes Grantham
anc.mat.bethandwes@gmail.com

Calendar - Bev Tallinger, btallinger@att.net

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.