



NEWCOMERS AND FRIENDS OF GEORGETOWN

April 2024

GeorgetownNewcomers.COM



Ruby Branham



Donna Hood

From the Co-Presidents

What's not to love about spring? Here in Texas spring is magical. The temperature is just right, the air is fresh, and wildflowers line the roads as far as the eye can see. That makes it a perfect time to take a scenic drive or hike. Or maybe you want to catch a minor league baseball game at Dell Diamond. And don't forget the Red Poppy Festival in downtown Georgetown. You can feast your senses on fine art, tasty treats and toe-tapping tunes. No matter what your interests, make it a point to spend as much time as possible outdoors enjoying the weather before we're once again overtaken by the Texas summer heat.

If you are one of those folks who wants to bring the beauty of plants to your own yard instead of having to take a road trip, you will not want to miss our next general meeting on April 4 (*first Thursday*). Andrew Brazell, owner of Weir WildScapes, will be doing a presentation on creating/maintaining a butterfly garden. In addition, he will talk about cactus/succulent propagation and care. He will have some plants available for sale. See more details on page 3.

See you on April 4th at The Den Amenity Center in Wolf Ranch.

Ruby & Donna
Co-Presidents 2023-2024



Mark Your Calendars

April 4, 2024 – First Thursday. General Membership Meeting at the Den at Wolf Ranch. 9:30 a.m. check-in & social time; 10:00 a.m. meeting. Andy Brazell from Weir Wildscapes will bring a variety of native plants and talk about incorporating them into your landscape. Details on page 3.

April 17, 2024 — Day Trip to the Texas Ranger Museum and The Homestead in Waco. 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. All seats have been sold, but there is a waitlist. Please sign up if you have an interest, as seats almost always become available at the last minute. Contact Mary Dunn at marydunn73@hotmail.com to get your name on the list.

May 9, 2024 — Second Thursday. General Membership Meeting and Annual Fashion Show & luncheon, Georgetown Public Library. Fashions will be provided by Pink Poppy Artisans Boutique and modeled by six of our members. Box lunches will be provided by Sweet Lemon, and orders will be taken in April. Cost of the luncheon is \$10. Checks should be made payable to Georgetown Newcomers & Friends. Cash will also be accepted. More details will be coming at the meeting and in the May newsletter.

May 29, 2024 —50th Anniversary of Newcomers celebration at Mulligan’s in Sun City. Appetizers and a cash bar. Cost \$5.00. More information will be provided at the general meetings and in the May newsletter.

June 1—August 31, 2024— Although there are no general meetings during these months, many SIGs meet year-round. Enjoy your summer!



Georgetown Newcomers & Friends

General Meeting & Presentation

The Den Amenity Center

Sponsored by Wolf Ranch - Hilltop

129 Canyon View Rd, Georgetown, TX 78628

1st Thursday, April 4, 2024, 9:30 a.m. check-in & social

10:00 a.m. meeting

**Meet Andrew Brazell, owner of Weir WildScapes
and a wildflower prairie enthusiast.**

Weir WildScapes specializes in Wildflower/Butterfly Garden consulting, classes, and tours of their wildlife preserve. They are an appointment-based nursery carrying a wide variety of plants focusing on Texas Native Pollinator perennials, vines, cactus, succulents, air plants, planters and more!

All the plants they offer are locally grown!

Plants and seeds will be available for purchase at this meeting.



Presentation

Topic 1:

Creating/Maintaining a Butterfly Garden

Topic 2:

Cactus/Succulent Propagation and Care

Lunch Immediately Following. Sign up at meeting.

Milano Trattoria

Wolf Ranch Retail Center

1015 W University Ave #420, Georgetown, TX 78628

Meet the Board

Publicity



Mary Jo Doggett

Responsibilities:

- Obtain information on monthly meetings & write press releases
- Disseminate to media & display in public places
- Enter program information into online media
- Email program information to media contacts
- Prepare flyers on upcoming meeting & hang in various locations
- Distribute flyers on Newcomers to realtors, Visitor Center, & the Georgetown Public Library
- Prepare status reports
- Order name tags
- Coordinate one luncheon per year

Skills Required:

- Familiarity with emailing & researching social media avenues
- Strong writing skills with ability to augment info supplied into interesting & informative communiques

Meet the Board

Day Trips



Ann Mayberry, Mary Dunn, Peggy Sklar

Shared leads work well for this position!

Responsibilities:

- Decide on destinations & dates of travel in coordination with the Board
- Research bus companies & determine cost
- Reserve bus
- Publicize trip to club
- Manage sign-up and wait list
- Make lunch reservations if meal is included

Skills Required:

- Good organizational & communication skills
- Detail-oriented

Meet the Board

Newsletter



Ann Ramage

Responsibilities:

- Design & compile monthly newsletter, using submissions from Board members and photos from individual submissions and/or the Facebook page
- Set deadline for submissions
- Publish 1 week prior to upcoming general meeting
- Distribute to members via email
- Post to group Facebook page

Skills Required:

- Good grammar, spelling, proofreading/editing, & computer skills
- Good communication skills
- Familiarity with Publisher or similar program

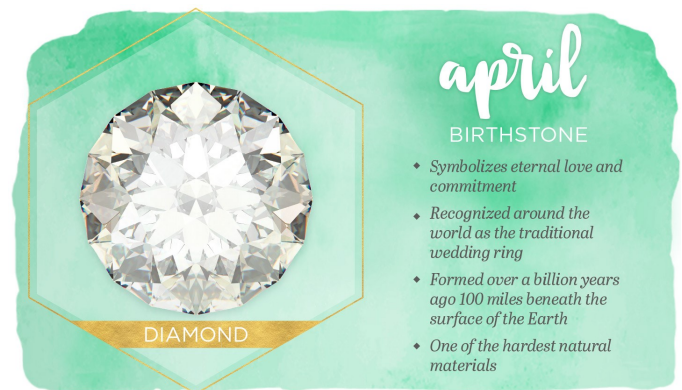
New Members

A **BIG** welcome to our newest members! There are many activities for you to get involved in to meet new friends. Take advantage by attending our functions and joining available SIGs.

Priscilla Poole

April Birthdays

- 1 Deborah Martin
- 2 Ruby Branham
- 7 Claudette Braly
- 9 Jackie Franz
- 9 Judy Kelley
- 13 Kaye Bishop
- 15 Lorrie Knight
- 21 Laura Packard
- 22 Rosanne Baldwin
- 23 Marilyn Zangl
- 24 Ree-C Harris
- 24 Cynthia Chavez
- 25 Donna Hurley
- 26 Cassandra Cheek
- 27 Kay Schoening
- 29 Betty Williams
- 30 Mimi Curran



Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Barbara Hansen, Coordinator

You must be a current member of Georgetown Newcomers and Friends in order to participate in our SIGs, either as a regular or a substitute.

How to join a SIG

1. Complete a SIG Request Form

<https://www.georgetownnewcomers.com/sigform.html>

2. Email NewcomersSIGCoordinator@gmail.com

Let me know your interest & I will coordinate from there. Maybe you can join right into the SIG, or maybe you start as a **sub** and later become a regular. Perhaps you are on the waitlist and will get moved up eventually. It really does happen a good bit.

OR maybe you **START A NEW GROUP**. You can shadow or be mentored by another like group Lead or do your own thing. *We are always looking for new SIGs! What is your interest? Let's spread the fun! We will help you!*

Dropping from a SIG

Please email NewcomersSIGCoordinator@gmail.com & the Lead for that SIG. This will allow us to notify those on the waitlist or to advertise.

Barbara

SIG Coordinator

Georgetown Newcomers & Friends



OPEN SIGs

<p><i>Wander Walkers</i></p> <p>Monday & Wednesday 9-10am. The Lead emails a 2-month schedule of walking locations.</p>	<p><i>Walk-n-Talk</i></p> <p>Tuesday & Thursday 9:30-11. Lead posts the walking location to Georgetown Newcomers & Friends private FB group a day or 2 ahead.</p>	<p><i>2nd Friday Book Club</i></p> <p>Meet at Georgetown CC & stay for lunch afterwards for those who would like. Twice a year members submit and vote on all genres of titles.</p>
<p><i>Mystery Book Club Divas & Dudes</i></p> <p>2nd Thursday 11:30-1ish, September - May, for lunch and book discussions at local eateries.</p>	<p><i>Reel Women</i></p> <p>Usually 3rd Tuesday. Gather for a matinee movie at Georgetown Film Alley. Afterwards we head someplace close for drinks/dinners out. Come for both or just the part that works for you.</p>	<p><i>Divot Divas</i></p> <p>4th Wednesday at various locations</p>
<p><i>Dragon Ladies</i></p> <p>2nd and 4th Thursday 1-4:00. Ladies gather with host providing packaged drinks & snacks. Play for Mardi Gras beads, not \$.</p>	<p><i>Mahjonnng Marvels</i></p> <p>Every Wednesday from 1-4:00 in Sun City. Looking for a 2nd table of 4 or subs.</p>	<p><i>Pennies from Heaven Canasta</i></p> <p>1st Tuesday from 9:30-12:30 year round. Members take turns hosting in their homes. <i>Looking for subs.</i></p>
<p><i>Coffee Rounds</i></p> <p>2nd & 4th Monday at various coffee shops around the area. 2nd Monday will be bring the kids or grandkids, & 4th Monday is kid-free. Watch for the event to be posted on the Newcomers Facebook page.</p>	<p><i>Tuesday Traveling Tasters</i></p> <p>2nd Tuesday, noon. We explore new restaurants, enjoying fun conversation. Does not meet during summers.</p>	<p><i>Grape Expectations</i></p> <p>4th Thursday at 4:30pm. Each volunteers to host at our home once a year. Hostess provides appetizers and 5 wines for the tasting based on a theme (can be as simple as "wines my friends and I enjoy"). Each attendee donates \$10 to help cover the hostess costs. Does not "officially" meet in the summer, but often gathers.</p>

ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW SIGs. WHAT IS YOUR INTEREST? LET'S FIND LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE. IF YOU ARE WILLING TO BE THE LEAD/ ORGANIZER, WE WILL HELP. LET'S SPREAD THE FUN... TALK TO ME FOLKS!! NewcomersSIGCoordinator@gmail.com

GRAPE EXPECTATIONS



Group meets at the hostess' home on the 4th Thursday,

September—June, 4:30—6:30 p.m.

(except November & December, when we meet on 3rd Thursday)

The hostess provides appetizers and 5 wines.

Each attendee contributes \$10 to help defray costs.

** Alternative: Hostess may ask participants to bring an appetizer and contribute \$5. **

General Meeting



Constable Matt Lindeman, retired Texas Ranger Lieutenant, presented a fascinating history of the Rangers to an attentive audience of 58. We met at the Wellspring Methodist Church on Williams Drive. This will be our new regular meeting location, beginning in September.



L—R: Barbara & Patti, Nominating Committee, presenting the slate of officers for 2024-25; Sue, Membership, Mary & Dorothy, Co-Presidents; Nancy & Sally, Programs



Nominees continued: Chris, Secretary; Rosemary & Alice, Coffee & Conversation; Joyce & Kathy, Day Trips. Not present: MaryAnn, Treasurer; Anne, Membership; Laura, Publicity; Mary, Hospitality; Angela, Newsletter; Carol, Day Trips.

Ladies Who Lunch

met at BJ's Restaurant
Round Rock



Reel Women



The Reel Women saw Arthur The King, followed by lunch at Tony & Luigi's

Café Crashers

Wildfire Restaurant, Georgetown



Around Town



Perfect Pair Sips & Boards

Ann, Deb, Mimi, & Susan help Deb redeem the gift certificate she won at the March general meeting. Too busy enjoying to get more photos. It was all yummy!



Girls Who Cook

St. Patrick's Day-themed lunch hosted by Donna Hurley



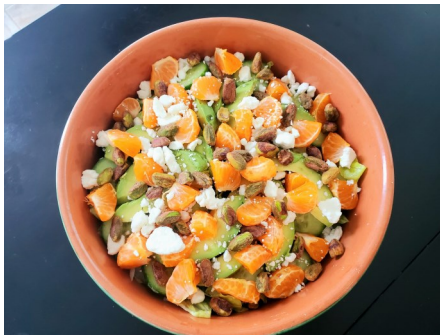
MaryAnn, Mary Ann, Chee, Donna



Reuben potato nachos by MaryAnn



Corned beef Alfredo by Chee



Irish flag salad by Barbara



Cabbage rolls by Chee



MaryAnn, Mary Ann, Michelle, Donna, Barbara, Gayle, Diane



Irish soda bread by Michelle



Grinch mimosas by Mary Ann



Colcannon by Diane

Guys Poker Night



Spring Mahjong Class



Phyllis, Kitty, instructor Michelle, Carolyn



Nancy & Colleen

“Exciting to learn something so different... good for the brain!”

Bunco

March hosted by Ruby Branham



Cosmo Girls

Tea Party With A Twist—hosted by Laura



See more photos of this fun evening on our Facebook page



Follow us on Social Media

Follow Us on Facebook!

We have a Facebook page for our members only. If you are interested in joining, go onto your personal Facebook account and search for Georgetown Newcomers and Friends and request to be added to our private group.

Join us on Facebook to see some of the fun!
Learn about the groups and new places to visit.
Post your photos...



Georgetown Newcomers and Friends

This is a private page. The admin will verify your membership before you are granted access. Above is the current profile pic for our group. Click the join button, and answer 2 simple questions. That's all there is to it!

If you're already a member, click on the "Write something" box, then on the Photo/video icon and share what fun your SIG is having. There is also an option to post anonymously.

We currently have 141 members following the Facebook page, so come and join us there!



Membership

Founded in 1973, Newcomers & Friends of Georgetown offers a personal invitation to you! We strive to create warm connections to anyone living in the Central Texas/Georgetown area.

As a way of promoting new friendships and sustaining existing ones, Newcomers & Friends is home to over 40 special interest groups. These range from physical fitness to games to dining out.

Newcomers & Friends meets September through May on either the 1st or 2nd Thursday of the month. *Please watch the newsletter announcements for the specific date.* Each month's meeting features a program. Instead of receiving an honorarium, guest speakers choose a charity or non-profit to receive a monetary donation. Donations have been made to Southwestern University, Hope Alliance, the Georgetown Animal Shelter, and the Susan G. Komen Foundation, to name but a few.

Newcomers & Friends now has over 230 members, and 43 of these are new. Our membership year runs from September through August, but you can join at any time! Members have moved to the Georgetown area from all parts of the United States and beyond. Members do not have to have recently moved to Georgetown - many of our more recent members discovered our group after living in the Georgetown area for many years! Yearly dues are \$25. Each member of the household is included in the membership dues. Most members are women, but men are welcome.

It's all about forging new bonds to make a new location "home"!

Find applications and lots of info here www.georgetownnewcomers.com



Name Tags

Would you like to have a name tag to wear to our meetings and other functions? Cost is \$10, and you can order one from our website. [Click Here](#)

If you have ordered a name tag, you can pick it up at any general meeting. Or contact Mary Jo Doggett to make other arrangements. pmjdogg@gmail.com or 281-658-9007.