



NEWCOMERS AND FRIENDS OF GEORGETOWN

February 2023

GeorgetownNewcomers.COM



Diane Habas



MaryAnn Sossamon

From the Co-Presidents

Dear All Georgetown Newcomers and Friends,

2023 has arrived, and we have officially entered our 50th year of existence. To celebrate, on January 5, we welcomed long-timer and new members, treated ourselves to sweets from the Little Lemon Cafe at the library, heard remarkable statistics on Georgetown growth and future planning from Major Josh Schroeder, and received committee updates, all while seated in the GT Library Don and Patti Hewlett Room. Patti Hewlett was one of 4 founders of our organization (the other 3 outstanding charter members were: Jean Rusk, Glen Compton and Jeannine Fairburn). Later 28 of us conveniently walked down the street to lunch at Barrels and Amps.

Take a look at the fairly complete listing of our Presidents through the years. And, if you see a familiar name, be sure to share your thanks for their valuable leadership and contributions as we continue to "Honor our Past and Secure our Future." There is much more to come. Stay tuned.

Your Co-Presidents,

Diane Habas & MaryAnn Sossaman

Listing of GTNF Presidents follows



50th Anniversary Spotlight

Georgetown Newcomers & Friends Established in 1973 Past Presidents

1973-74	Jean Rusk
1974-75	Unavailable
1975-76	Linda Collings
1976-77	Jodie Steger
1977-78Dec	Judy Lunsford
1979-May	Dora Dean Buie
1979-80	Beverly Christianson
1980-81	Laurie Locke
1981-1995	Info Unavailable
1996-97	Sondra Carlton
1997-98	JoAnn Jouette
1998-99	Unavailable
1999-2000	Drue Ann Beaman
2000-01	Mimi Boney
2001-02	BJ MacMillian
2002-03	Joyce Crane & Ursula Dorsey
2003-04	Christine Kelly & Pam Spenner
2004-05	Christine Kelly & Beverly Anderson
2005-07	Barbara Daigle & Shirley Brown
2007-08	Barbara Daigle
2008-10	Elaine Scheibel
2010-11	Allison Wolfe
2011-12	Patsy Blackburn
2012-13	Sherrill McCullough
2013-14	Peggy McCain
2014-15	Jeretta Fischer
2015-16	Marianne Bruett
2016-17	Ann Mayberry
2017-18	Emelie Young
2018-19	Linda Barde-Zimmerling
2019-20	Laura Packard
2020-21	Sheila Mills
2021-22	Linda Pinkston



Newcomers General Meeting
February 2, 2023 9:30 am
Firestation #5
3500 DB Wood Road

TOUR of GFD STATION #5

Meet in Classroom A between **9:30 & 9:45**. We'll walk to the Fire House for a tour, then return to the classroom for a presentation from the Deputy Fire Marshal. We will meet Koda the Fire Dog and maybe some other surprise visitors.



Those wanting to have lunch after the meeting will gather at Masfajitas Mexican Restaurant in a private room (lunch on your own, order off the menu). The restaurant is located at 3010 Williams Drive, #102.

This is an unusual event for Newcomers. Thanks to the positive response from all of you, the tour is now full. Peggy Sklar has confirmed reservations and will provide information on parking soon.

NOTE THE DIFFERENT START TIME AND LOCATION!

Mark your Calendars

February 2, 2023—General Membership Meeting and tour of **Fire Station #5**. Lunch at Masfajitas. ***The tour is full.***

March 2, 2023—General Membership Meeting in the **Georgetown Public Library, Hewlett Room, 2nd Floor**. Mickie Ross from the **Williamson County Museum** will present the program, **Scraps of the Past**.

April 6, 2023—General Membership Meeting. Andy Weir of Weir Wildscapes will present the program at a location to be announced at a later date.

April 19, 2023—Bus Trip to the Painted Churches. Details on following page.

May 4, 2023—Annual Fashion Show & luncheon at the **Georgetown Public Library**. Lunch provided by Little Lemon. Watch this space for more details.

Bus Trip to the Painted Churches

DATE: Wednesday, April 19

TIME: 8:00 a.m—5:00 pm

Depart Walmart Parking Lot

COST: \$60—lunch included

We wanted to give everyone plenty of time to get their names on the list. You will be able to sign up and pay for the trip at the February 2 meeting at the Fire Station. There is room for 40 people. If you wish to sign up before the meeting or after, contact Mary Dunn at marydunn73@hotmail.com, and she will put your name on the list. We would like to make a deposit on the bus by February 6.

The price of \$60 per person includes the bus, lunch, and tips for both the bus driver and the restaurant. We will stop at Buc-ee's on the way, then on to see four painted churches and the Grotto Cemetery. Lunch will be at the Oakridge Smokehouse restaurant in Schulenburg.

The daily lunch buffet at Oakridge Smokehouse restaurant Includes a full salad bar, choice of 4 veggies, homemade sausage and sauerkraut, 3 fresh meat options daily (fried chicken is on the buffet every day), homemade soup, and dessert. Ice tea and coffee are included.

Please bring your checkbook or the exact cash to sign up. Checks should be made payable to **Georgetown Newcomers and Friends**. Remember that you can invite non-members and spouses/partners to join us. There are no refunds, but we will keep a waitlist if the trip is full and we can share that with you if you are unable to use your ticket. ***Spots are filling up quickly, so don't delay!***

Check out this 5-minute video from the DayTripper for a glimpse into some of the churches in the area. <https://thedaytripper.com/the-painted-churches-road-trip/>



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.

Dawn Daffinee, Mary Dececchi-Baros, Julie Fearheiley, Ruth Fuller, Eurisa Harris, Candy Hitchcock, Cheryl Lindsey, Sandy Lovvorn, Diane Moore, Geri Tease, Karen Veillon, Michelle Wright

February Birthdays



- 4 Carol Machmer
- 7 Connie Bowman
- 8 Susan Darlington
- 9 Stacy Haines
- 9 Nina Klinkenberg
- 13 Patty LeBarbara
- 13 Diane Moore
- 14 Lolita Cruz
- 15 Marcia Healy
- 15 Linda Walke
- 16 Toby Gebhardt
- 16 Jere Hanchak
- 16 Marcy Lowe
- 22 Tracy Karschnik
- 22 Anne Turney
- 23 Linda Poole
- 25 Ellen Balay
- 27 LaNell Hill



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 in- to the SIG or maybe you start as a **sub** that later becomes a regular. Perhaps you are on the waitlist that gets 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.

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 advertise.

Barbara

SIG Coordinator

Georgetown Newcomers & Friends



New Mahjong Class



American Mahjong classes
For the beginner

We need a committed 4 weeks to get you a good start
Best played in groups of 4
Wednesday March 29, April 5, 12 & 19
1-3:00pm

Email newcomersSIGcoordinator@gmail.com
To reserve your spot



**Building a Bridge SIG
January 27th
10am
Looking for
seasoned beginners to intermediate players
of
Party or Duplicate Bridge**

**INTERESTED IN PLAYING??
Email newcomersSIGcoordinator@gmail.com**

THE GRAPE ESCAPE is looking for a new couple to join their next gathering
FEBRUARY 8 & thereafter 🍷

The GRAPE ESCAPE is a couples wine tasting group that meets in the early evenings on the 2nd Wednesday of October, December, February, and April.

Couples take turns hosting in their homes. The hosts select and provide the wine. Each couple brings an appetizer or dessert to share.

Additional Information: We ask that the wines selected for tasting (usually 2 whites and 2 reds) cost \$20 or less and be locally available. The idea is to introduce new, inexpensive wines to each other.

While not required, it is not at all unusual for the host couple to provide a more substantial food item such as a brisket, tamales, sandwiches, etc. so people are not drinking on an empty stomach.

We limit our membership to 7 couples which means each couple hosts once every 2 years.

We do not meet as an official group from May through September though individual couples volunteer to host the group for unofficial gatherings during these off-months. These optional gatherings are BYOW along with an appetizer or dessert to share. We allow guests to attend our tastings BUT before bringing a guest we ask that permission be obtained from the hosting couple.



January General Meeting

Georgetown Public Library



Mayor Josh Schroeder on the long-term planning for the growth of Georgetown



49 attendees, including 4 guests, for the Mayor. There were lots of good questions. You can always bring your spouse/partner to our meetings.



Diane Habas telling about meeting with Jeannine Fairburn, one of the founders of Georgetown Newcomers & Friends



MaryAnn Sossamon, co-President

January General Meeting



Karen Veillon with her door prize



B.J. Page with her door prize



Kolaches from Little Lemon. The few leftovers were donated to the Sun City FD.



28 of us walked over to Barrels & Amps for lunch after the meeting

Page Turners



Going-away party for Judy Murphy

January meeting hosted by Marianne Bruett

Book: *Under the Banner of Heaven, a Story of Violent Faith*, by John Krakaur



Patti Groce, Claudette Braly, Kathy Hertzog,
Marianne Bruett, Maria Healy, Donna Hood



Patti, Claudette, Kathy, Debbie Krenek, Maria, Donna

Men's Poker Night



Divot Divas



Ruby Branham & Sally Nagy

Dragon Ladies



Vicki was the big winner!

I Love My Book Club

Christmas Potluck





Patti Groce hosted the first event of 2023

Bunco



Tuesday Out to Lunch

Whisky Cake Kitchen & Bar—Round Rock



The famous Whisky Cake—YUM!



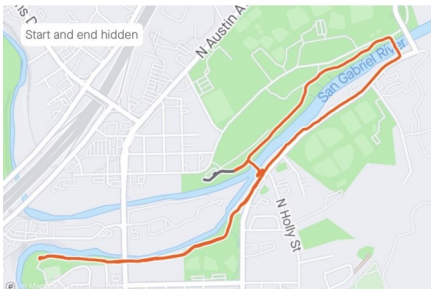
Above—Wood-grilled salmon

Left—3 Little Pigs—pulled pork sliders

Walk n Talk



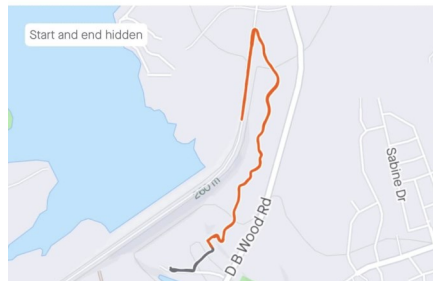
Lunch Walk



Distance
3.29 mi

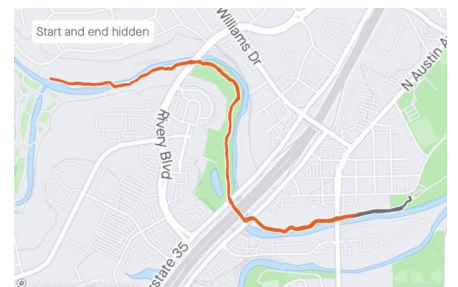
Moving Time
1:16:53

Morning Walk



Distance
3.55 mi

Moving Time
1:18:43



Coffee & Conversation



Hosted by Susie Logan



\$180 raised for Backpack Buddies

Cellar Dwellers



January gathering hosted by Jere Hanchak

Girls Who Cook

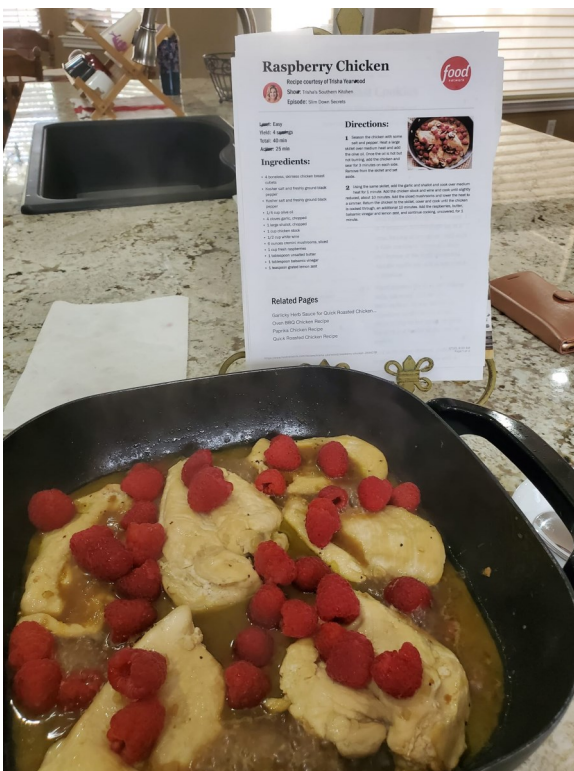
Spotlighting recipes from Trisha Yearwood:

Raspberry Chicken

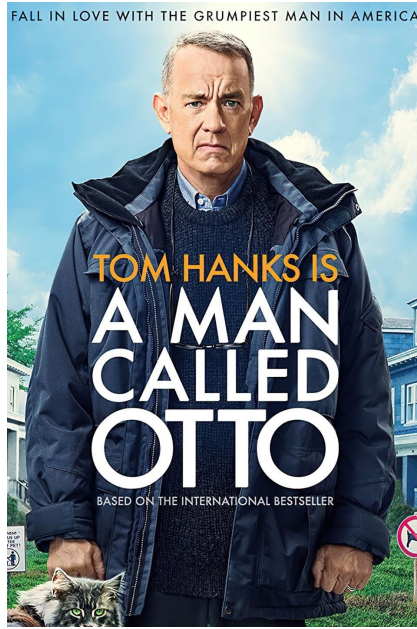
Orzo Salad

Roasted Veggies

Andes Brownies



Reel Women



Ichiro after the movie—Win/Win!

Wine Divas



The Dinner Group

Gino's Italian Restaurant—Round Rock

December



Golden Rule—Georgetown

January



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.



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](#)

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 about 40 special interest groups. These range from physical fitness to games to dining out.

Newcomers & Friends now has over 200 members. Approximately half of our group's membership lives in Sun City. 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!

Newcomers & Friends meets the first Thursday of each month (September through May). 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, the Susan G. Komen Foundation, Friends of the Georgetown Library, the Caring Place, Master Gardener Naturalists, the Assistance League of Georgetown, and Ride on Center for Kids.

Yearly dues are \$25. Each member of the household is included in the membership dues. Most members are women, but men are welcome. We currently have 223 members, and 49 of these are new!

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

Membership applications available at www.georgetownnewcomers.com