



# NEWCOMERS AND FRIENDS OF GEORGETOWN

April 2023

GeorgetownNewcomers.COM



Diane Habas



MaryAnn Sossamon

## From the Co-Presidents

Dear Newcomers and Friends,

We are proud of our organization's red poppy logo. It represents 50 years of generous intentions and warm welcomes. Poppies first found their way to Georgetown via Europe and a WWI soldier who sent seeds to his mother from Flanders Field. His mother planted them on her E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street property and they eventually spread all over the city. Apparently, Georgetown is one of the few locations in the US where red poppies reseed themselves from year to year. As a renowned memorial symbol, the red poppy visibly helps us remember the numerous veterans from Williamson County who have bravely served and are currently serving in the U.S. Military.

The Red Poppy Capital of Texas, Georgetown, will celebrate its 23<sup>rd</sup> Red Poppy Festival the weekend of April 28-30. There will be 3 days of arts and artisans, parades and pets, classic cars and music-making, along with food and fun. Enjoy the offerings!

Lastly, at our April 6<sup>th</sup> General Meeting at the Cowan Creek Pavilion, we will be treated to a presentation on gardening with ways to further enhance the beautiful and bountiful flora of our city. We hope that you can join us.

Your Co-Presidents,

Diane Habas & MaryAnn Sossamon



**Newcomers General Meeting**  
**April 6, 2023 10:00 a.m.**  
**Sign-in & Social 9:30—9:55**  
**Cowan Creek Pavilion**  
**1433 Cool Spring Way, Sun City**

## **Native Habitats**

Andrew Brazell and his wife, Kasie, are wildflower prairie enthusiasts. To fulfill their dream of giving back to nature by creating a Native Habitat, they moved to Weir, in Williamson County, and began planting wildflowers. They now have 15 acres, and offer plants, seeds, garden art, classes, and tours.

The Brazells promote and encourage their clients to give back to nature by creating native habitats within their spaces to attract beneficial wildlife. With pollinator numbers on the decline worldwide, every home or land owner can do their part by creating a wildflower or butterfly garden in their space.

Andrew's presentation will focus on creating such spaces, and will include information on succulents and our beloved bluebonnets.

There will be plants available for purchase, and door prizes will include two native plants and bluebonnet seeds. This promises to be a very exciting presentation in a beautiful outdoor setting. We hope to see you there!

***PLEASE NOTE THAT WE WILL BE AT THE COWAN CREEK PAVILION IN SUN CITY FOR THIS MEETING!***



# Mark your Calendars

**April 6, 2023**—General Membership Meeting. Andrew Brazell of Weir Wildscapes will present the program at **The Cowan Creek Pavilion, 1433 Cool Spring Way, Sun City.** Lunch to follow at **Mulligan's, 150 Dove Hollow Trail, Sun City.** *Note the change of location!*

**April 18, 2023**—Coffee & Conversation at the home of Ann Mayberry, starting at 9:30 a.m. Ann has selected "The Locker" as her charity for donations. There will be a signup sheet at the April meeting.

We encourage new members to attend, as there are many board members present to answer any questions or concerns you may have in a relaxed setting. Directions to Ann's home are in the email which accompanied this newsletter. See you all soon!

**April 19, 2023**—Bus trip to the Painted Churches. We have had a great response to the Painted Churches bus trip. There are 40 people who have signed up and 8 people on the wait list. If you are unable to attend and need to cancel your seat, please contact Ann Mayberry [annierfd@gmail.com](mailto:annierfd@gmail.com). She can arrange for one of the 8 people on the wait list to take your place and reimburse your fare. We look forward to sharing this trip with you.

**May 4, 2023**—General Membership Meeting, annual Style Show, and luncheon. Fashions will again be provided by Pink Poppy. Lunch will be delivered by Little Lemon after the style show. Menu choices are as follows:

Chicken Club Croissant, Turkey Club Croissant, Sweet Lemon House Salad.

Sandwiches include seasonal fruit.

Mini desserts are Lemon Bars or Mississippi Mud.

You will be able to place your order and pay for your meal at the April meeting. The cost of the box lunch is \$10. We accept checks or cash—exact change only.

May is our last meeting for the 2022-2023 year, and the Style Show is always a big hit. Do plan to join us!



The Nominating Committee has just about completed an excellent slate of 2023-24 officers. At this point, we need to fill the position of Vice-President, which can be held by 1 or 2 candidates.

The Vice President(s) is responsible for the following:

- ✓ Assist the President with the organization and planning of meetings.
- ✓ Preside in the absence of the President.
- ✓ Serve as chairperson(s) of the Nominating Committee.
- ✓ Oversee welcoming and greeting current and prospective members at the monthly meetings.
- ✓ Assume the role of President upon installation of new officers and may appoint a Parliamentarian.

Newcomers is all about joining groups and meeting new people. What a fabulous way to give back to an organization that does so much! If you or someone you know would like to be part of this excellent slate, please contact Ruby Branham at [btaggiemom@msn.com](mailto:btaggiemom@msn.com) or Donna Hood at [donnalynnehood@verizon.net](mailto:donnalynnehood@verizon.net) .



# 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.

Delia Beltran   Lynette Jackson   Deborah Peoples

## Happy Birthday!

- 1     Deborah Martin
- 2     Ruby Branham
- 6     Norma James
- 7     Claudette Braly
- 9     Jackie Franz
- 9     Judy Kelley
- 13    Kaye Bishop
- 15    Lorrie Knight
- 18    Judy Conley
- 21    Laura Packard
- 24    Cynthia Chavez
- 24    Ree-C Harris
- 25    Donna Hurley
- 27    Peg Allen
- 27    Kay Schoening
- 29    Betty Williams
- 30    Mimi Curran



### April Born

You are dynamic and creative if you are born in April. You never take a stand and always stick to what others like and that can make you diplomatic. You have a very real and practical approach towards life. You love to feel adrenaline rush and that makes you daring and adventurous. You are caring towards your loved ones.

[www.wishafriend.com](http://www.wishafriend.com)

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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*





Always fun!  
Move around, meet people, eat,  
drink with this SO fun game!

First Wednesday of the month, 6:30—9:00  
Each member hosts a month, supplying host gift, food, .....

Game is best with 12, so regulars & subs are always needed  
If you're interested in trying/joining, just email  
[NewcomersSIGCoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:NewcomersSIGCoordinator@gmail.com)



# OPEN SIGs

<p><b><i>Wander Walkers</i></b></p> <p>Monday &amp; Wednesday 9-10am. The Lead emails 2 month schedule walking location</p>	<p><b><i>Walk-n-Talk</i></b></p> <p>Tuesday &amp; Thursday 9:30-11. Lead posts the walking location to Georgetown Newcomers &amp; Friends private FB group a day or 2 ahead</p>	<p><b><i>2nd Friday Book Club</i></b></p> <p>Meet at Georgetown CC &amp; stay for lunch afterwards for those that would like. Twice a year members submit all genres of titles that are then voted on.</p>
<p><b><i>Mystery Book Club Divas &amp; Dudes</i></b></p> <p>Meets the 2nd Thursday 11:30~1, September - May, for lunch and book discussions at local eateries.</p>	<p><b><i>Page Turners</i></b></p> <p>Meets the 1st Wednesday of the month, 10am. We meet in member homes. We discuss all genres. We have a facilitator who guides us.</p>	<p><b><i>Cosmo Girls</i></b></p> <p>Meets 4th Tuesday 5:30-7:30 pm. Host rotates &amp; provides 2 cocktails while others bring nibbles.</p>
<p><b><i>Reel Women</i></b></p> <p>Usually 3rd Tuesday. Gather for a matinee movie at Georgetown City Lights. Afterwards we head someplace close for drinks/dinners out. Come for both or just the part that works for you.</p>	<p><b><i>Divot Divas</i></b></p> <p>1st Monday at various locations</p>	<p><b><i>Bridge</i></b></p> <p>Formulating a new SIG of experienced players. Shooting for April get-together.</p>
<p><b><i>Dragon Ladies</i></b></p> <p>2nd and 4th Thursday 1-4:00. Ladies gather with host providing packaged drinks &amp; snacks. Play for Mardi Gras beads, not \$. If enough people, we play with card to rotate tables</p>	<p><b><i>Evening Mahjong</i></b></p> <p>3rd Wednesday 5-8 pm. Each brings \$3 but we keep playing if one loses her money. Light snack &amp; drink provided by host who rotates monthly</p>	<p><b><i>Mahjong Mavens</i></b></p> <p>2nd &amp; 4th Thursday 1pm at the Berry Creek Country Club.</p>
<p><b><i>Ready to Roll Bunco</i></b></p> <p>1st Wednesday 6:3~9pm. Each member will host one month while offering food, drink &amp; hostess gift. The food for example can be... A casserole with salad, cookies/ cake &amp; drinks. OR Chili/ pulled pork with all the fixings/toppings, salad, cornbread, soda/water/wine &amp; dessert (s). We eat for 30 minutes then play. \$5 pay-in for the hopeful big payouts.</p>		<p><b><i>Pennies from Heaven</i></b></p> <p>Meets the 1st Tuesday from 9:30-12:30 year round. Members take turns host-essing in their homes. Pennies from Heaven is a version of Canasta that is played with four players of two partnerships using 5 decks of cards. Looking for subs.</p>

**ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW SIGs. WHAT IS YOUR INTEREST? LET'S FIND LIKE 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](mailto:NewcomersSIGCoordinator@gmail.com)



# March General Meeting Georgetown Public Library



Nice new signs to welcome attendees



Mickie Ross of Preservation G'town



40+ in attendance



Lunch at Mas Fajitas after the meeting



# Bunco



# Mystery Book Club—Divas & Dudes

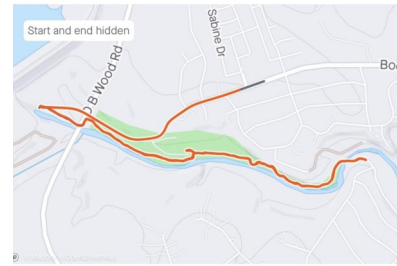


At The Texan Café & Pie Shop—Hutto

# Walk n Talk

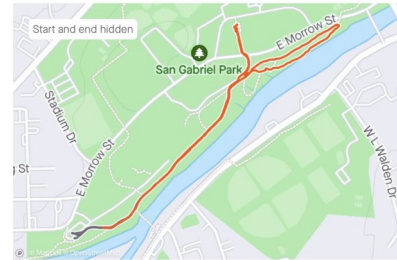


Morning Walk



Distance 3.70 mi Steps 7,664

Morning Walk



Distance 1.71 mi Steps 4,628



2 days

2 parks

1 garden

10 ducks

5 miles

Many conversations

And lots of beautiful scenery!



# Tile Toters



Celebrating St. Patrick's Day with Mahjong, good food, good friends, lots of fun—and Pot of Gold mimosas!

# The Dinner Group

Whisky Cake Kitchen & Bar

Round Rock



The famous Whiskey Cake—so yummy!



L to R: Mary & Mike Dunn, Hossein and Heide Mansouri, Carol and Bruce Wolitarsky and Warren and Carol Elsasser



## Reel Women

City Lights—Georgetown  
Followed by sips & nibbles at Wildfire



# Grape Expectations



Quite the feast! Hosted by Donna Hood.

# Cosmo Girls





# 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 232 members, and 56 of these are new. 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.

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

**Applications available NOW at [www.georgetownnewcomers.com](http://www.georgetownnewcomers.com)**

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## 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](#)

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# 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.