



NEWCOMERS AND FRIENDS OF GEORGETOWN

GeorgetownNewcomers.COM



Ruby Branham



Donna Hood

From the Co-Presidents

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Welcome to 2024!

With all of the hustle and bustle and jam-packed holiday activities behind us now, we can step back, take a breath, and slow down a bit. January seems to be a much quieter month and it gives us a chance to reflect on the past year, and time to begin thinking about goals we may have for the current year. For some, it might just be reading some good books or catching up on episodes of a favorite show.

January is also the beginning of an action-filled five months for our members. We have some great programs lined up, another fun day trip being planned, and a special Newcomers & Friends of Georgetown 50th Anniversary Celebration in the works.

This month, our General Membership Meeting will take place on January 11, 2024, **the second Thursday** of the month, in the Hewlett Room at the Library beginning at 9:30 a.m. We look forward to hearing Alton Martin, President of Preservation Georgetown. If you have ever wondered about the history behind the existence of Georgetown, Texas, you won't want to miss this meeting! It will be a great learning opportunity. More details of this program are on page 4, and the plans for lunch afterward will be announced soon. We hope to see you all on January 11th.

Donna & Ruby
Co-Presidents



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 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 200 members, and 30 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](#)

We still have a few unclaimed name tags. If you have ordered one, you can pick it up at any general meeting. Or contact Mary Jo Doggett to make other arrangements. pmjdoqq@gmail.com or 281-658-9007.

Mark Your Calendars

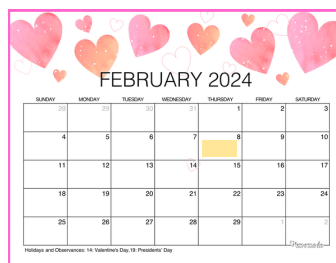
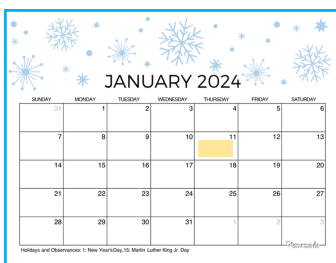
January 11, 2024— General Membership Meeting, **Second Thursday**, Georgetown Public Library, Hewlett Room, 2nd Floor. Check-in & social time, 9:30—9:55 a.m. Meeting begins promptly at 10:00. Alton Martin, President of Preservation Georgetown, will present information on the life of George Washington Glasscock, Sr., and provide more details about the history of Georgetown.

February 8, 2024—General Membership Meeting, **Second Thursday**, Georgetown Public Library, Hewlett Room 2nd Floor. Check-in & social time, 9:30—9:55 a.m. Meeting begins promptly at 10:00. Clark Thurmond of the Williamson County Sun will give a presentation on the history of the paper and on how reporting is done.

March 7, 2024— General Membership Meeting. Matt Lindemann, a 21-year veteran of the Texas Rangers, will talk about the Rangers, from inception to the present day. Time and location to be finalized.

April 4, 2024— General Membership Meeting at the Den at Wolf Ranch. 10:00 a.m. Andy Brazell from Weir Wildscapes will bring a variety of native plants and talk about incorporating them into your landscape.

April 17, 2024—Day Trip to the Texas Ranger Museum and The Homestead in Waco. Details on page 5.



Georgetown Newcomers & Friends

General Meeting – Georgetown Public Library, Hewlett Room

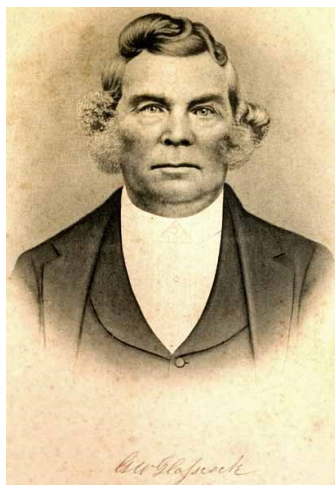
2nd Thursday, January 11, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

Meet the new president of Preservation Georgetown and
Learn about the founders and evolution of Georgetown, Texas!



**Alton Martin, President
Preservation Georgetown
Grace Heritage Center
817 S Main Street
Georgetown, TX 78626**

Mr. Martin will be sharing the life and times of George Washington Glasscock, Sr. who donated 172 acres of his land which became Georgetown, Texas. In addition, he will highlight the evolution of Georgetown, Texas, since 1848.



Lunch will immediately follow. Location yet to be determined.

A sign up sheet will be available at the meeting.

Day Trip

Newcomers' next day trip will to be to the **Texas Rangers Hall of Fame and Museum** in Waco on **Wednesday, April 17**. This will be a timely follow-up to our March general meeting, where our speaker will be a retired Texas Ranger.

<https://www.texasranger.org>

After touring the museum, we will head to the Homestead Craft Village for lunch at the **Café Homestead**. After lunch, there will be time to stroll, browse, & shop. Lots of exhibits, crafts, pottery, gifts, a market, and a even specialty cheese store!

<https://www.homesteadcraftvillage.com/>

The trip will be from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and the cost is \$35. That includes the bus, tip to the bus driver, and entrance to the Texas Ranger museum. Lunch will be on your own.

More details will be discussed at the January meeting. Sign up is available now to members and at the January meeting. You will be able to pay at the meeting. Please bring a check for \$35, payable to Georgetown Newcomers & Friends. We also accept cash – exact change only. Guests and non-members are welcome to sign up in February.

To sign up now, please contact Mary Dunn

marydunn73@hotmail.com



Meet the Board

Secretary-Historian



Patti Groce

- Takes minutes at all Board meetings.
- Sends draft to Board members for corrections or additions.
- Final minutes resent to Board.
- Attends all General Meetings and takes minutes if business is conducted at the meeting, and sends these minutes to the Board President.
- Plans and makes reservations for one lunch on your own after a general meeting.
- Keeps copies of all Newcomers' correspondence and Membership Directories.
- With the help of Robert's Rules of Order, the minutes are kept concise and give a record of the business of Newcomers.

Communications



Susan Harmon

- Coordinate membership communications under the director of the Board of Directors
- Maintain the website & digital applications
- Attend Board meetings
- Submit monthly status report prior to each meeting & store on Newcomers' Google Drive
- Update website with pictures for events/SIGs; keep calendar & SIGs current; outline meeting details
- Monitor the Newcomers Gmail account & membership spreadsheet update the Online Directory
- May create a print directory
- Detail-oriented; familiar with Google Apps; able to use Weebly for website
- Computer experience required

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.

Sue Kealy Linda McFarlin Lynn Whelan

January Birthdays

- 2 Ethel Barnes
- 4 Kathy Bratton
- 7 Betty Jagen
- 9 Dorothy Noack
- 14 Norma Cortez
- 15 Danielle Ponichtera
- 15 Jan Thaxton
- 18 Wende Yellin
- 20 Sandy Lovvorn
- 20 Debbi McCall
- 21 Angela Newman
- 23 Jana Gruidl
- 24 Karen Veillon
- 25 Joanne Douglas
- 27 Lynne Fussell
- 30 Lynn Hester
- 30 Sherry Thein



january
BIRTHSTONE

- Symbolizes regeneration and vitality
- Known for being protective against evil spirits
- May be used for turning one's dreams into a reality
- Possess powerful emotional healing properties

GARNET

A graphic for the January birthstone, Garnet. It features a dark red, faceted garnet stone in a hexagonal frame. The word 'january' is written in a white cursive font, and 'BIRTHSTONE' is in a smaller, white sans-serif font below it. A list of four bullet points describes the stone's properties. The word 'GARNET' is written in a yellow sans-serif font at the bottom of the hexagonal frame.

january
BIRTH FLOWER

- admiration
- deep love
- affection
- purity
- luck
- gratitude

CARNATION

A graphic for the January birth flower, Carnation. It features a large, light pink carnation flower in a hexagonal frame. The word 'january' is written in a white cursive font, and 'BIRTH FLOWER' is in a smaller, white sans-serif font below it. A list of six words describes the flower's symbolism. The word 'CARNATION' is written in a yellow sans-serif font at the bottom of the hexagonal frame.

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 2 month schedule walking location</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 all genres of titles that are then voted on.</p>
<p><i>Mystery Book Club Divas & Dudes</i></p> <p>2nd Thursday 11:30~1, 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 City Lights (now 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>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 Face-</p>
<p><i>Mexican Train</i></p> <p>See flyer on page 8 for more info.</p>		<p><i>Stitch Together</i></p> <p>See flyer on page 9 for more info.</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

NEW SIG



Mexican Train

Details to be worked out.

Complete a SIG form & let's jump on board!

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



NEW SIG

STITCH TOGETHER

Come together & chat while
working on your project

January 15—10:00 a.m.

at the home of Candy Hitchcock

Santa Rita Ranch North

232 Rosetta Loop, Liberty Hill



Linen towel with drawn thread work
accented with embroidery in stem and
satin stitch

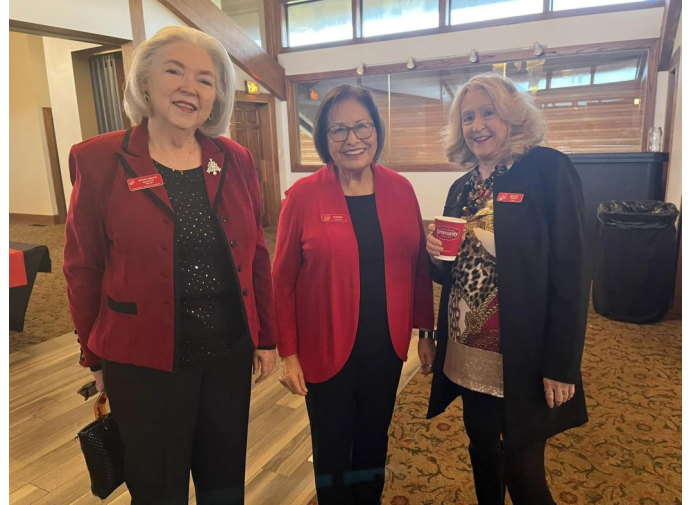


General Meeting

Holiday Luncheon at Berry Creek Country Club



Rosemary, MJ, Carolyn



Patti, Norma, Peggy



Elaine, Judy & guest, MJ



Above: Co-Presidents Ruby & Donna

Left: Marcy & Emelie





Harpist Kristen Gibbs



Carol & Dorothy

Right: Kathy, Ann, Diane

Below: Door Prize winners
Monica, Kathy, Debbie

And one lucky guest per
table got to take home the
poinsettia centerpiece!



I Love My Book Club



Celebrating together in December
Back to the books in January



The Dinner Group



Thai Spoon

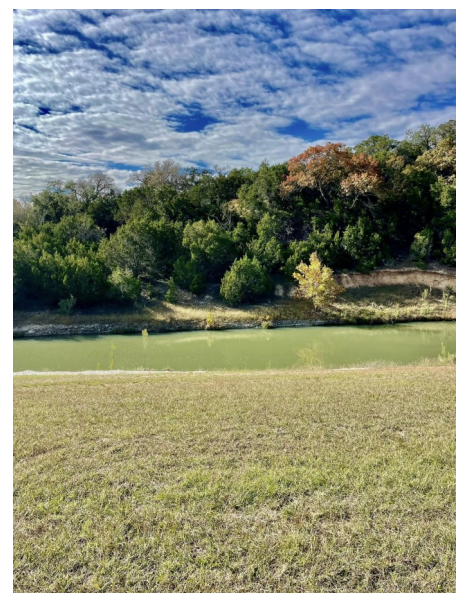
Round Rock

L to R: Bruce Wolitarsky, Sam Dolsen,
Hossein Mansouri, Warren Elsasser,
Carol Elsasser, Heide Mansouri,
Delores Humphries, Carol Wolitarsky

Stilling Basin—3.9 miles, gorgeous views, and lots of chatting!



Walk n Talk



Grape Expectations



December hosted by Pat Butterfield, and featuring a selection of Bogle wines
Lots of yummy food and holiday cheer!

Guys Poker Night



Mahjong Mavens



Tile Toters



Holiday party hosted by Ruby Branham
Above: MaryAnn, Sally, Rosemary, Donna,
Kathy, Cynthia, Barbara, Patti



December game
night
hosted by
Patti Groce



Wine Divas



Celebrating the holidays at the Clubhouse at Verde Vista

Bunco



December hosted by Linda Pinkston (above in red)



Cosmo Girls



Very Merry Martinis



Artichoke balls



Sun-dried tomato & broccoli pesto palmiers



Fruit & cheese plate
Strawberry jalapeno jelly over cream cheese



Caprese salad



Spinach & feta wreath

Holiday Cheers
Hosted by Donna Hood

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 127 members following the Facebook page, so come and join us there!

