



NEWCOMERS AND FRIENDS OF GEORGETOWN

October 2023

GeorgetownNewcomers.COM



Ruby Branham



Donna Hood

From the Co-Presidents

Wow, what a great general meeting and the start to our 2023-2024 season of Newcomers and Friends of Georgetown! All the smiling faces, friendly hugs and introductions to new members were very heart-warming. And kudos go out to our program committee for coordinating the tour of the historic Williamson County Courthouse. Not only did we learn about the history of the building initially built in 1910 for \$96,000, but that Williamson County was named after a guy called "Three-Legged Willie." We also got to sit in the same courtroom where Dan Moody, a young Texas lawyer, made a name for himself in the 1924 trials and convictions of four Ku Klux Klan members. He later went on to become the youngest governor of Texas. The courthouse is one of the top 10 sites to see in Georgetown, so if you missed it, you need to add that tour to your bucket list.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, October 12, in the Hewlett room at the Georgetown Library. Our speaker, Mayor Josh Schroeder, will be giving an informational presentation on the upcoming bond package on the November 2023 ballot, as well as information on water resources and internet options/status. Mayor Schroeder is a dynamic speaker and you will not want to miss this meeting.

To ensure your contact information is included in the online and/or printed directory, and your participation in Special Interest Groups is not interrupted, please be sure you have renewed your membership by October 15, 2023. If you need to renew your membership for 2023-2024 or join as a new member, you may pay at any general meeting, online, or by mail.

Ruby Branham & Donna Hood

Co-Presidents

Newcomers & Friends of Georgetown



Mark Your Calendars

October 12, 2023 - General Membership Meeting, **Second Thursday, Georgetown Public Library**, Hewlett Room, 2nd Floor. Social time, 9:30—9:55; meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. Mayor Josh Schroeder is our scheduled speaker. Lunch will follow at The Golden Rule, 606 S. Church, just one block off the square. A sign-up sheet will be provided at the meeting.

October 24, 2023 - Our first Coffee & Conversation, 9:00 a.m., in the home of Lynn George, 125 Flat Creek Court. Donations may be made to Harley’s Angels Sanctuary in Florence. A representative from this non-profit will be on hand at this event. Per Lynn, street parking is acceptable, in spite of the curb signs.

November 2, 2023 - General Membership Meeting, **First Thursday**, 9:30 a.m. We’ll tour **Firehouse #5**, located at 3500 D.B. Wood Rd.

November 8, 2023 – Bus trip to Gonzales, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Details on page 5 of this newsletter.

December 7, 2023 - General Membership Meeting & Holiday Luncheon, **First Thursday**, 9:30 a.m. **Berry Creek Country Clubhouse**, 2nd Floor, 30500 Berry Creek Drive



Newcomers General Meeting
October 12, 2023 10:00 am
Georgetown Library in the Hewlett Room
Check-in & Social Time 9:30—9:55



Mayor Josh Schroeder

- **Bond Package on November 2023 Ballot**
(Informational presentation only. No opinions will be shared)
- **Fiber Optic Cable / Internet Options & Status**
- **Water Resources / Equipment Condition**

Having grown up in Taylor, Texas, Josh graduated with a B.A. with honors from The University of Texas at Austin, in 1998. He received his J.D. from The University of Texas School of Law, 2002. He was admitted to the State Bar of Texas in 2002. He was elected Mayor of Georgetown in November, 2020, and was re-elected in May, 2023.

Josh Schroeder is an attorney and shareholder at Sneed, Vine & Perry, P.C., where his practice focuses on assisting clients in a wide range of transactional business matters, from formation to operation to sale, with a particular emphasis on real estate development.

Josh has served on a number of community non-profit boards, including the Boys and Girls Club, The Caring Place, Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, Brookwood in Georgetown, and the Rotary Club. He is the current chair of Georgetown Development Alliance.

Josh has also served on numerous City Boards and Commissions, including Planning and Zoning (Chair), Historic and Architectural Review Commission (current Chair), the 2030 Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, the Williams Drive Corridor Study Group, and the Zoning Board of Adjustments (Chair).

We'll have lunch immediately following the meeting at The Golden Rule, 606 S. Church. A sign-up sheet will be provided.

You will not want to miss this meeting!

Meet the Board

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

You know the cliché, “it takes a village to raise a child”? ... Well, in the case of Georgetown Newcomers & Friends, “it takes a Board of Directors to keep us going strong”!

Our BOD is composed of a group of people who come together monthly, share ideas, and create plans of action. Working together cooperatively, we develop our monthly general meetings that include our informative programs; design opportunities for member interaction, such as Coffee & Conversation; and discuss ways we can support our community.

In an effort to support GTNF members’ awareness of each of the positions on the BOD, beginning next month the newsletter will highlight 2-3 positions, including brief descriptions and the main purposes of each. As you peruse these descriptions, we encourage you to think about your strengths and how they can support the continuation of GTNF through your board participation in the future.

All of our BOD positions are manageable with only 1 person as chair, but most can be shared by 2 people serving as co-chairs. So, whether you are a newcomer or a long-timer in GTNF, whether you have served on this board in the past, or have never served on any board, we hope you will consider bringing your strengths, expertise, and fresh ideas to this BOD.

If you have questions or just want to know more about the BOD in general, please don’t hesitate to contact one of our board members! For your information, following is a list of all positions, both elected and appointed:

President *	Communications
1st Vice President *	Hospitality *
2nd Vice President-Membership *	Coffee & Conversation *
Secretary-Historian	Newsletter
Treasurer	Day Trips *
Publicity-Name Tags *	Programs *
SIGs *	



*Indicates possible shared positions

Day Trip to Gonzales



Our next bus trip will be to Gonzales on Wednesday, November 8, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We'll meet at the Walmart parking lot at 7:30 a.m. for a prompt 8:00 a.m. departure. We'll arrive in Gonzales about 10:00 a.m.

We have two curator-led private tours scheduled. Our first stop will be the Gonzales Memorial Museum, home of the "Come and Take It" cannon. The tour should last about an hour. Then we'll move on to the County Jail Museum (the "Haunted Jail Museum"). Lunch will follow at Baker Boys BBQ. You will have a **choice of a main course of brisket, chicken, or ribs**. All sides and water will be included. After lunch, we'll head home, and will arrive back about 4:00 p.m.

Please email Mary Dunn, marydunn73@hotmail.com, or Peggy Sklar, psklar1@gmail.com, to sign up and to advise your choice of main course. We can accommodate 55 people, and will keep a wait list once we reach capacity.

The cost is \$50 per person, and includes lunch, taxes, and a tip for the bus driver. This is less than previously mentioned because we found a less expensive bus company. **For those of you who have already paid \$55 you will be getting a refund of \$5.**

Checks should be made out to **Newcomers and Friends of Georgetown**. You can drop off or mail your check to Mary or Peggy, or you can pay by check or cash (exact change only) at the next newcomers meeting on October 12.

Mary Dunn, 121 Stockman Trail, Georgetown, TX, 78633
Peggy Sklar, 104 Prospector Pass, Georgetown, TX, 78633

Please let us know your preference for the main course (brisket, chicken, or ribs) by email or no later than the next meeting.

See links below for more information and videos.

<https://tourgonzales.com/stay-play/listing/gonzales-memorial-museum/>

<https://tourgonzales.com/stay-play/listing/gonzales-county-jail-museum/>

<https://bakerboysbbq.com/>

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.

Bea Aldrich	Diane Barta	Diane Bartulevicz	Laura Castillo
Elizabeth Cochran	Carol Erwin	Jana Gruidl	Lynne Hester
Camille Lupton	Sara Nahmens	Danielle Ponichtera	Kitty Sheeran

October Birthdays

- 1 Cynthia Gibson
- 1 Cynthia Kinler
- 1 Pat Malinowski
- 1 Mary Lou Modde
- 2 Caren Walker
- 6 Sheryl Westwick
- 7 Chee Hart
- 9 Sharon Lesikar
- 11 Karen Harrison
- 13 Debbie Krenek
- 13 Karen Wardlaw
- 16 Patty Houston
- 24 Susan Harmon
- 25 Deborah Trumble-Herrera
- 26 Joyce Dixon
- 27 Diane Mackie
- 27 Sandra Snead
- 29 Colette Ballard
- 29 Beverly Cully
- 29 Pam McKee
- 29 Carol Wolitarsky



october
BIRTHSTONE



OPAL

- ♦ Symbolizes love and hope
- ♦ Opals are opaque with a holographic sheen—when light is flashed onto them, they sparkle with the colors of the rainbow
- ♦ The name comes from the Latin word opalus, which means “precious stone”
- ♦ Secondary stone: tourmaline

october
BIRTH FLOWER



MARIGOLD

passion
creativity
drive to succeed
desire for wealth
beauty and warmth of the rising sun

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 style="text-align: center;"><i>Wander Walkers</i></p> <p>Monday & Wednesday 9-10am. The Lead emails 2 month schedule walking location</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><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 style="text-align: center;"><i>2nd Friday Book Club</i></p> <p>Meet at Georgetown CC & 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 style="text-align: center;"><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 style="text-align: center;"><i>Page Turners</i></p> <p>1st Wednesday of the month, 10am. We meet in member homes. We discuss all genres. We have a facilitator who guides us.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Sleuths</i></p> <p>3rd Friday, 10 a.m.—noon, year-round. Books are exclusively mystery books. Each member has a turn to host in her home. December meeting is usually an “out to lunch” event.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Reel Women</i></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 style="text-align: center;"><i>Divot Divas</i></p> <p>4th Wednesday at various locations</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Bridge</i></p> <p>3rd Thursday, starting at 1 pm for experienced players. Will rotate homes amongst members. Just tell us how many you can accommodate & we will try to fill with fun folks.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><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 \$. If enough people, we play with card to rotate tables</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Evening Mahjong</i></p> <p>3rd Wednesday 5-8 pm. Each brings \$3 but we keep playing if one loses her money. Light snack & drink provided by host who rotates monthly</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mahjong Mavens</i></p> <p>2nd & 4th Thursday 1pm at the Berry Creek Country Club.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Hand & Foot Canasta</i></p> <p>1st Thursday from 1:30 to 4 or 5 p.m.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pennies from Heaven Canasta</i></p> <p>1st Tuesday from 9:30-12:30 year round. Members take turns hosting 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>

MORE OPEN SIGs

<p><i>Ready to Roll Bunco</i></p> <p>1st Wednesday 6:30~9pm. Each member will host one month while offering food, drink & hostess gift. The food for example can be... A casserole with salad, cookies/ cake & drinks. OR Chili/pulled pork with all the fixings/toppings, salad, cornbread, soda/water/wine & dessert(s). We eat for 30 minutes then play. \$5 pay-in for the hopeful big payouts.</p>	<p><i>Wine Divas</i></p> <p>2nd Thursday, 4—6 p.m.. September—May. Does not meet in the summer. We meet in a member’s home & Verde Vista clubhouse. 2 people choose the wine and the appetizers. Sometimes go out to a wine bar. We discuss the wines and review information. Light education and loads of fun!</p>	<p><i>Grape Expectations</i></p> <p>4th Thursday at 4:30 p.m. Each member volunteers to host in her home once a year. Hostess provides appetizers and 5 wines based on a theme (can be as simple as “wines my friends & I enjoy”). Each attendee donates \$10 to help cover the hostess costs.</p>
<p><i>Tuesday Traveling Tasters</i></p> <p>2nd Tuesday of the month to explore new restaurants & enjoy fun conversation. Does not meet in the summer.</p>		<p><i>K.I.S.S.</i> <i>(Keep It Simple Supper)</i></p> <p>4 times a year with a flexible meet day & time, usually been on a weekend. Next gathering will be September. Hostess makes main dish- others bring sides. Meet in each other’s homes, with each taking a turn to host.</p> <p>Looking for 1 couple</p>

NEW & UPCOMING

<p><i>New Couples Dinner</i></p> <p>Looking for one more couple.</p>	<p><i>Friday 8am Walking</i></p> <p>Looking to start this fall, probably in October, when things cool somewhat</p>	<p><i>Theater SIG????</i></p>
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September General Meeting

Georgetown Public Library & Courthouse Tour



Ruby & Donna kicking off our first General Meeting of 2023-2024



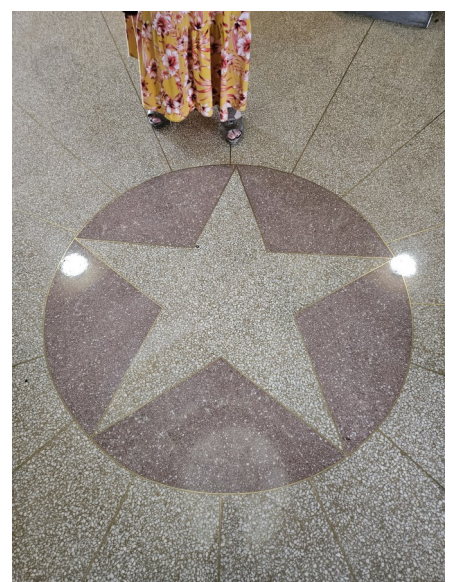
Williamson Museum docents Danelle Houck & Roxana Petrus giving a brief intro to our Courthouse tour



Gathering for the tour



The courtroom where young Dan Moody successfully took on members of the Ku Klux Klan, beginning in 1923 and 1924.



September General Meeting

Courthouse Tour—continued



After the tour, more than 20 of us walked over to enjoy lunch at Blue Corn Harvest



Coffee Rounds

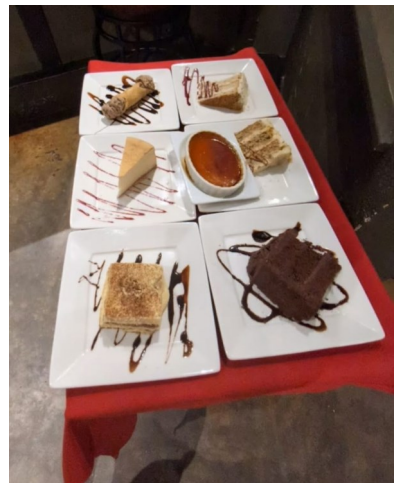


309 Coffee in Georgetown
Beautiful day to be outdoors—for adults & kids alike!

Tuesday Out to Lunch



L to R: Judy, Carol, Diane, Susan, Ann, Collette, MaryAnn, Mary, Mary Lou (lead), Betty



Guys' Poker Night



Reel Women



In September, we ventured to Cinemark in Round Rock & enjoyed sips & nibbles afterwards at BJs Restaurant & Brewhouse

R: Linda & Jere



The Dinner Group

Wildfire—Georgetown



Hossein, Mike, Mary, Sam, Delores, Carol, Warren, Heide



Macadamia encrusted shrimp



Brussel sprout & beet salad



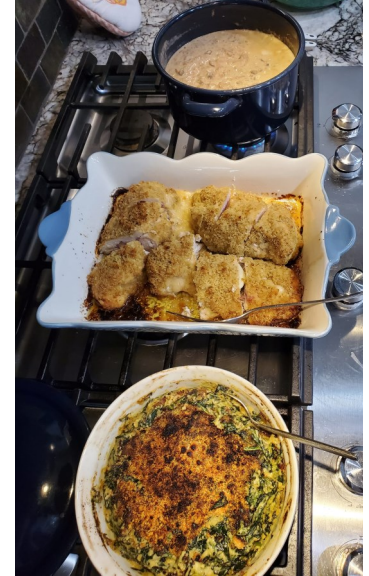
Wildflower—Absolut pear vodka, St. Germaine, champagne & an orchid

Girls Who Cook



L to R: Donna Hurley, Mary Ann Molliver, Chee Hart (host & lead), Ann Mayberry, Susie Logan, MaryAnn Sossamon (not pictured: Barbara Hansen & Kay Schoening)

Champagne & Gran Marnier by MaryAnn



Spinach au gratin—Ann
Chicken Cordon Bleu—Chee
Beef Stroganoff—Chee



French Country Apple Cake—Susie

Celebrating French food and drink this month!

Cosmo Girls

September was hosted by MaryAnn Sossamon

Professional bartender Aubry taught the Cosmo Girls how to make these featured cocktails



Peach Martini



Smoked Cinnamon Gin & Tonic



Quite the selection of hors d'oeuvres!



Fixin's for the Maple Bourbon Pumpkin Cocktail



MaryAnn (host & lead), Sandy, Leslie, Debra, Laura, Linda, Danielle, Mary Lou, Donna, Michelle

Cellar Dwellers

Hosted in September by
Ann Mayberry



Membership

Our membership drive for the 2023-2024 program year is wrapping up.

To ensure your contact information is included in the online and/or printed directory, and your participation in Special Interest Groups is not interrupted, please be sure you have renewed your membership by October 15, 2023.

Our annual dues are \$25 per household. There are 3 ways to pay:

1. You can renew online here www.georgetownnewcomers.com. Simply fill out the form and pay with your PayPal account. (You must have a PayPal account to renew online.) OR
2. You can print the form & bring it with your cash or check to the September 14th meeting at the library. OR
3. You can print the form and mail it with your check to Georgetown Newcomers & Friends, 1530 Sun City Blvd, Ste 120, PMB 427, Georgetown, TX, 78633-1994.

We currently have 260 members, 16 of whom have joined during this membership drive! This is such a welcoming group, with lots of ways to engage with the community. We hope you'll invite your friends to join us, too. 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](#)

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

