



# NEWCOMERS AND FRIENDS OF GEORGETOWN

APRIL 2021

GEORGETOWNNEWCOMERS.COM



Greetings Members,

I want to take this opportunity to first say *thank you* for your patience during this past year as the Newcomer and Friends Board of Directors worked through a very challenging time to plan ways to keep the members engaged in a safe manner. The State of Texas has opened back up and we can start to create a “new” normal routine for our organization always keeping the safety of our members in the forefront.

I would love to say everything will go back to the way it was, however, I do not believe we will experience the same “normal” as before. I think it will take several stages to create our new normal. The first phase which we have been in since the onset of the Covid pandemic is the Respond stage. This is where Newcomers has responded to the crisis the best we could and worked to keep the organization in operation while following the State/Federal/Local mandates. The second phase which we are in now, is the Recovery stage, as we develop new ways of meeting in a safe manner (emotional and physical) for the benefit of all our members with an outcome to become a stronger organization.

As we work through the Recovery stage, we may find we are unable to do things like we did before and the saying “this is the way we do things” may not be valid any longer. For me, this is a tough one and such a hard habit to break! More than likely frustrations and emotions will certainly surface as we work through trying to understand and support current mandates.

Under the umbrella of our Newcomers Organization, all members are welcome to attend the organizations events, meetings and activities including all members of the special interest groups (SIG) functions.

To support each member, we need to be respectful of other members privacy and as an organization, our intent is not to mandate nor segregate out members from any of our functions. As many of the SIG groups resume activities, it may be necessary to find a new normal on what that looks like to accommodate all the group members in a safe manner, but it will be a great opportunity to develop new ideas and share them among the groups. Many local businesses will continue to require a mask mandate so many of us may prefer to wear one during Newcomers functions also. As you develop ideas, please share with us as others might want to build on them to develop best practices. The Board of Directors and SIG leaders in particular will need support and feedback in planning SIG events so that all members feel welcomed and not excluded. The bottom line is each individual has to make the decision to do what is right for them.

Again, thank you for your understanding, for your grace, feedback, and prayers as we work through this and for your willingness to engage with one another and most importantly for having a genuine concern for your friends in Newcomers.

Take care,

Sheila Mills  
President  
Newcomers



**Newcomers General Meeting April 1, 2021 (No fooling)  
Berry Springs Park - Under the Pavilion  
11:00 to 1:00 pm, Bring your lunch and a mask is  
welcome to be worn and your \$\$s for the 50/50 Raffle**

Speaker: Scarlett Moss, the Vice President for Integrated Communications and Chief Communications Marketing Office for Southwestern University. Southwestern University is a nationally recognized under graduate Liberal Arts and Sciences college in Georgetown. Established in 1840, it is the first institution of higher learning in Texas.

The past year has been exceedingly difficult for all levels of education. It is a perfect time to hear how universities and colleges have handled these difficult times and what affect the year has on students.

**Newcomers General Meeting May 6, 2021  
11:00 to 1:00 pm,  
At George's on the Town in Georgetown  
708 S. Interstate 35**

There will be no speaker at the luncheon.

Theme of the luncheon is "Where are you from and your home state"

Wear a shirt or banner from your home state

Starting with the board, everyone will introduce themselves

The 2021-2022 Board will be installed

50/50 Raffle and door prizes

The luncheon will be held on the patio and limited to 40 members

More information to sign up will be in the May newsletter

Please wear a mask when you are inside the restaurant



**Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**  
**Mimi Rhea, Chair**  
**512-705-9744**

**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.**

A complete listing of all SIGs is available on our club website.

It looks like all the hibernating SIGs are beginning to stir – or, at least, thinking about stirring. You might be hearing from your leader about upcoming plans. And won't it be great to be getting together again, *safely still*, to begin to normalize our lives!

In the meantime, we have some new SIGs who are able to meet safely in spite of the big bad COVID.

**Walk and Talk** is a group that meets twice a week, on Tuesday at 10:30 and Thursday at 2:30, to do what? To Walk and Talk, of course. It is easy to distance yourself in the great outdoors and fun to catch up on the latest *stuff* with Newcomer friends

**Barbara Hansen** and **Linda Pinkston** are the leaders.

**Divot Divas** are sharpening their golfing skills by visiting different area golf courses. They play monthly on the first Monday. With Spring springing the weather should be perfect for the next few months and they are looking for new members.

**Sally Nagy** and **Dorothy Noack** are leading this group

**Tile Toters** is another new group. A beginner Mah Jongg group. They have met a couple of times and are still in the process of finalizing their method of operation.

**Donna Hood** and **Ruby Branham** are leading this group

I might mention that these leaders are all brand new members of Georgetown Newcomers and Friends. They have jumped right in to help make our club even better than ever. Many thanks for their willingness to lead.

If you are interested in joining any of these new SIGs, or any of the ones that already exist, please contact me – **Mimi Rhea**, SIG Coordinator – [eerhea@att.net](mailto:eerhea@att.net) or 512-705-9744. See pages 7 and 8 for pictures.

**Coffee and Conversation**

Coffee & Conversation

March 16, 2021

Twenty-eight members attended the Coffee and Conversation that was held March 16, 2021 at Mulligan's Restaurant in Sun City. Masks were worn by the inside group and everyone enjoyed being able to get together. See pictures on page 6.

Lunch was served at 11:45 and most members remained for lunch. Coffee and tea was furnished by the board.

Door Prize tickets were given as each person came in. Three door prizes were handmade note cards made by our member **Nina Cronin** for the three winners. Thank you, Nina.

Ann Mayberry

Coffee and Conversation Chair

**Membership Applications for  
2021-2022 are Available at  
[www.georgetownnewcomers.com](http://www.georgetownnewcomers.com)**

The 2021-22 membership forms are on our Website. Several of our members have shown their optimism and support by already paying their \$25 dues for next year.

On the Website, click on the Membership Page to download the print form or renew online.

A table will be setup at the April 1 meeting to signup for membership in 2021-2022.

If you have general questions about membership, contact Mary Dunn or Dorothy Noack through our Website.



## **Mark Your Calendars**

### **For April**

April 1.....General Member-  
ship Meeting at  
Berry Springs Park

May 6 .....General Member-  
ship Meeting at  
George's on the  
Town

June thru August.....**No** General Mem-  
bership Meetings  
will be held

## **Name Tags**

If you would like to have a name tag to wear to our meetings and other functions, an order form is available on our Website. Price is \$9.00 each.

## **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 join.

## **Virtual Day Trips**

No Virtual Day Trips are scheduled for April.

## **In Sympathy**

Please contact us if you know of a member who has lost a spouse or loved one so that we can send a card from Newcomers? You can reach Ann Mayberry through our Website.

## **Publicity**

There are many exciting things happening!

Newcomers business cards have been printed. This is a very positive way of reaching out to the community. Business cards will be available to members who choose to receive them at the April 1st and May 6th meeting.

Recently, Newcomers is listed on the NextDoor app. It's awesome being able to spread the news about our awesome organization. Susan Barton - Chair

## **Important Dates in April**

April 1            April Fools' Day

April 2            Good Friday

April 4            Easter

April 13           Ramadan begins

April 22           Earth Day



## **Divot Divas**

Our Golf SIG is now open and playing!

Spring in Central Texas is a perfect time for a game of golf and the game can be played using COVID-19 guidelines.

The "Divot Divas" meet on the first Monday of the month. The format is 9 holes, with drinks and food afterwards.

If you would like to be added to the roster, don't hesitate to call Sally Nagy at 512-751-5241. If you use the SIG form to sign up, we are listed under "Recreational".



Hello Ladies,

Emelie Young and Susie Logan, our Nominating committee, have been busy helping us find our new board. Below is the Proposed Slate of Officers for 2021/2022.

Voting will take place during our April 1<sup>st</sup> General Meeting.

### **Proposed Slate of Officers**

**\*\*President - Linda Pinkston**

Vice President - Rickie Rieck

\*2nd VP/Membership - Mary Dunn & Dorothy Noack

\*Secretary - Patti Groce

\*Treasurer - Mary Ann Sossamon

Communications - Susan Harmon

**\*\*Programs/Hospitality - Susan Barton & Carol Machmer**

**\*\*Publicity - Peggy Sklar**

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) - Barbara Hansen

Coffee & Conversation: Donna Hood

Newsletter: Sally Nagy

Day Trips: Open

\*Returning to Board in the same position

**\*\*Returning to Board in a different Position**

Coffee and Conversation at Mulligan's in Sun City on March 16th  
Photos provided by Linda Pinkston



## Walk and Talk Group (SIG)

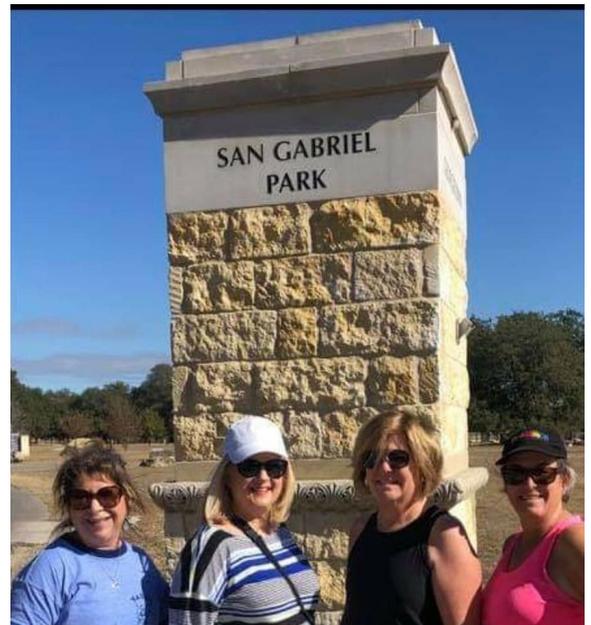
**Walk and Talk** meets twice a week. Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30 am. They walk for about one and one half hour and are exploring the many parks and walking trail in the area.

Get on their contact list to find out where they are going and how you can join them by calling:

**Barbara Hansen** at 210-355-1917 or **Linda Pinkston** at 301-213-1886



Come and join  
the fun with the  
Walk and Talk  
members.



## More Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Tile Toters - A beginner Mah Jongg Group  
Photo by Barbara Hansen



Rosemary Allen, Sally Nagy, Ruby Branham, Chris Paige, Barbara Hansen and Donna Hood

The Dinner Group  
Photo by Carol Elsasser



From left: Warren Elsasser, Sam Dolsen, Hossein Mansouri, Mike Dunn, Bruce Wolitarsky (Carol was in Maine), Mary Dunn, Heide Mansouri, Delores Humphries-Dolsen and Carol Elsasser meeting for dinner together for the 1st time in 1 year at Salt Traders in Round Rock.