## JULY - AUGUST 2025



#### **AUSTIN WOMAN'S CLUB**



#### **NEWSLETTER**

## Reflections from Anna

Dear Ladies of the Austin Woman's Club,

I feel fortunate to begin our new year on a firm financial foundation built by the leadership of our Immediate Past-President Dot Swanson, her Board, and our members. Much thought and hard work has brought about changes in our business model that charts a bright future for our Austin Woman's Club. With help from our incoming Board and our dedicated members we will have a stable future which will allow us to grow our membership and our outreach into the Austin community.

I am glad to welcome new and familiar faces to the 2025-26 AWC Board. Our new Board will have a mixture of long-time members who will keep our history and new members who will bring innovative ideas to the AWC. The Board is already hard at work making plans for this upcoming year. I look forward to working with them to see what we can accomplish in the new year.

We are fortunate to have an intern who will work with us for the summer. Please welcome Ingrid Smith. She is a Journalism major at Northwestern University. Ingrid will work with our staff to increase visibility within the community, research strategies for social media and marketing, and align marketing goals between the AWC and our venue.

Again, many thanks to Dot Swanson and her Board for the many hours spent creating and implementing our new business plan. We still must be careful moving forward, but thanks to them, we can move forward with confidence.

Best Wishes,

#### Anna Marie Speir



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

#### **Catherine Camillone**

(Sponsored by Lisa Alverson and Jill Klucher)

#### Paula Coopwood

(Sponsored by Lisa Alverson and Stacey Brewer)

#### **Ellie Fitzgerald**

(Sponsored by Sara Jane Cantwell and Karen Watford)

#### **Martha Griffith**

(Sponsored by Patti Hirsh and Margaret Danforth)

#### Holli Hill

(Sponsored by Meredith Wood and Stacey Brewer)

#### Tricia Moose

(Sponsored by Meredith Wood and Sara Jane Cantwell)

#### IN MEMORY OF

Georgia James (2002)
Sylvia Miller (2001)

## RESERVATION PROCEDURES

#### **Reservation Procedures**

- Reservations need to be made no later than noon on the Tuesday before the luncheon by clicking the reservation button below.
- You will now have the option of paying in advance online, or you can choose the "Pay at the Door" option so that you can pay by cash, check (payable to the Austin Woman's Club), or credit card at the door. A QR Code for free online credit card payments will also be available at check-in.
- Please note, If you select to Pay at the Door, be advised that you will be required to pay for your lunch even if you do not attend unless you cancel by noon on the Tuesday before the luncheon.
- For seating and dietary requests, please contact Cecilia at office@chateauatx.com
- For event specific requests like reserving a table, tables settings, decorations, etc., please contact Jordyn at events@chateauatx.com.
- The cutoff time of 12:00 p.m. on Tuesdays for that week's AWC luncheon reservations and cancellations.
- Reservations for the same week will not be accepted after Tuesday, and cancellations made after Tuesday will be charged.
- To-go meals (while available) at the luncheons are \$10 per plate which includes entree and sides only (no starters or desserts).

Click to make a luncheon reservation.



#### THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

**Introduction by Susan Ashworth** 

## DAVE SCHER

#### **GUITARIST**



Austin's own Dave Scher is a current staple in the Texas live music scene. While working as a sideman for various independent artists, including Fastball and guitarist Eric Johnson, Dave also juggles maintaining a solo career as a songwriting guitar-slinger, leading his own band.

Dave is involved every waking day in the performance of his own or someone else's music. He has released 2 full length albums of his own material, 1 ep in September of 2022, and has been performing his music around the Austin metroplex for well over a decade now, both as a singer/songwriter and as a guitar slinger.

## THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

**Introduction by Karen Haschke** 

# Navigating Social Isolation, Anxiety, and Depression in Later Life

## JOAN ASSEFF

Assistant Dean for Master's Programs
The University of Texas at Austin
Steve Hicks School of Social Work

**Introduction by Karen Haschke** 

This presentation explores how societal norms and ageism contribute to social isolation, anxiety, and depression among older adults. Participants will examine and challenge commonly held expectations around aging, identifying which beliefs support healthy aging and which may cause harm. The session will also introduce a variety of evidence based strategies for supporting mental well, being in later life.

dence-based strategies for supporting mental well-being in later life, with a focus on practical tools for reducing isolation and enhancing emotional resitience in older populations.

Joan Asseff, LCSW-S, is the Assistant Dean for Master's Programs, clinical associate professor, a licensed clinical social worker, and a board-approved supervisor for the state of Texas. She has held leader-ship positions in gerontology, healthcare, housing stability, financial empowerment, program development, interprofessional collaboration, and mental health. Joan has extensive social work experience in the practice areas of hospice, skilled nursing, inpatient psychiatric care, grief and loss counseling, and intensive case management with volder adults and their caregivers. She is co-director of the Gerontology Resources and the Aging Community in Education (GRACE) Program. Working to grow the number of social workers serving older adults, Joan provides practicum instruction and partners with gerontology focused agencies to create internships. She provides mentorship and professional development opportunities for GRACE students and graduates serving older adults and their caregivers.

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 2025 11:30 - 1:00 P.M. Introduction by Gayle Hight Free Raffle of
Historical
Texas Maps!



# Buck Cole - A Few Ordinary Texans

(Personal letters that should have stayed private.)

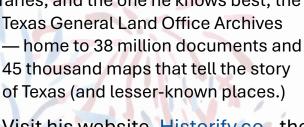
Mollie and Rufus Mann. Onnie Clem. Kate Stone.

#### Ordinary Texans from days past?

Their personal letters, archived in the Texas General Land Office and other places, tell a different story. Experiences and details that perhaps should have stayed private many years ago.

Buck will share the invaluable role of personal letters in understanding history, particularly the often-overlooked experiences of "ordinary" individuals. You'll learn how intimate personal documents can offer unique insights into daily life, emotions, and perspectives that official records often miss, bringing the past to life in a deeply personal way.

Bio: Buck Cole is a native of Waco, Air Force veteran, retired Texas and American history teacher, and former K-12 Education Coordinator for the Texas General Land Office Archives. He makes history come alive by sharing stories to schools, historical organizations, and civic groups using documents from museums, libraries, and the one he knows best, the





Kate Stone



Onnie Clem



Molly and Rufus Mann

Visit his website, <u>Historify.co.</u>, the simplest and quickest history read on the Internet.

#### THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M. Introduction by Andrea Stone



# zero waste in atx!

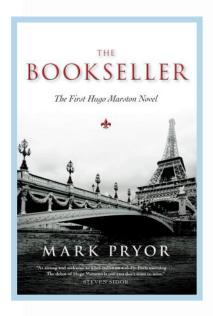
## Lauren hust

Community Engagement Specialist Austin Resource Recovery

Lauren Hust is a Community Engagement Specialist at Austin Resource Recovery, focused on engaging residents and businesses inactivities that contribute to Austin's Zero Waste goal. She currently works on events and presentations to educate Austinites on their services and leads efforts to provide equitable access for all community members regardless of language. Previously, Lauren was an account executive for an integrated marketing agency, served as a Peace Corps volunteer in North Macedonia, and taught third graders in Texas. She's passionate about building relationships within local communities and bringing people together to create positive change.

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 2025 11:30 - 1:00

## MORE HUGO MARSTON



#### **Mark Pryor**

#### **Introduction by Sandy Blevins**

Mark Pryor is the author of the **Hugo Marston series**, set in Paris, London, and Barcelona. With nine books in the series thus far, a spin-off of the **Hugo Marston series** is set to launch in April of next year. It sees Hugo still in Paris, and with the same characters around him, but instead of working at the US Embassy, Hugo has opened his own mystery book shop!

Mark also wrote the **Henri Lefort trilogy**, historical mystery novels set in 1940s Paris, and has two books set right here in Austin, the psychological thrillers HOLLOW MAN and DOMINIC.

Away from books Mark is a retired prosecutor, and now a partner at a criminal defense firm in Austin, Texas. He began his career as a journalist in England, where his beat was also crime-related—the police blotter. He has been a guest analyst on CourtTV and appeared on CBS News's 48 Hours, NBC's Dateline, and Discovery Channel's Discovery ID: Cold Blood.

Books will be available for purchase and signing!



#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2025

11:30 - 1:00



Elizabeth Henneke, Founder and CEO of Lone Star Justice Alliance

#### **Introduction by Susan Ashworth**

Elizabeth Henneke, Founder and CEO of Lone Star Justice Alliance, will be our presenter.

Lone Star Justice Alliance drives systemic change in the criminal legal system through advocacy and innovative programs improving life outcomes for youth and young adults.

Currently, it has offices in Austin and Dallas.

#### MEET THE 2025 - 2026 BOARD!

- President, Anna Marie Speir
- President-Elect, Mary Ann Golden
- Im. Past President, Dot Swanson, Advisory Committee Chair
- Recording Secretary, Nancy Naylor
- Treasurer, Lisa Alverson
- Parliamentarian/By-Laws, Melissa Goodrich
- Building Chair, Dr. Karen Pope
- Communications Chair, Noel Roberts
- Finance Chair, Jill Klucher
- Development Chair, Gayle Hight
- House Chair, Sandy Cangelosi
- Insurance Chair, Lorraine Maslin
- Membership Chair, Debbie Cochran
- Program Chair, Claire Wendlandt
  - Literature: Sandra Blevins
  - Performing Arts: Susan Ashworth
  - Art: Karen Haschke
  - Travel and Leisure: TBD
  - Fifth Thursday: Andrea Stone

- · SLRP Chair, Mary Gay Grigg
- Membership Treasurer, Genie Nyer
- · Club Activities Chair, Meredith Wood
- Corresponding Secretary, Rene Fitzgerald
- Fine Art & Furnishings Chair, Peggy Purcell (Claire Hays, Jeanette Cook)
- Inhouse Fundraising Chair, Cammy Jones
- Grants Chair, Sylvia Imhoff
- Scholarship Chair, Cyrilla Ivy
- Treasurer-Elect, Stacy Brewer

#### 2024-2025 Nominating Committee:

Karen Haschke,Ch., Emily J. Lucid, Mary Ann Golden, Karen Gernstein, Karen Watford

#### 2025-2026 Nominating Committee:

Karen Watford, Ch., Sandy Cangelosi, Sarah J. Cantwell, Mary G. Grigg, Karen Haschke, Adv.









## THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025

11:30 - 1:00

Introduction by Karen Haschke

# Home and Interior Design in the New World

Navigating AI, Product Overload, DIY Culture, Global Sourcing, and the Role of the Interior Designer in Today's Hyper-Connected Landscape

## Patrick Landrum

Interior Designer



In today's rapidly evolving design world, homeowners face a flood of information—and misinformation. From AI-generated interiors that ignore design principles and code compliance, to "influencers" with no real expertise, and "luxury" products that are more hype than substance, it's becoming harder to know what's real, what's possible, and what's truly worthwhile.

This presentation explores how to navigate these challenges, including the risks of sourcing directly from overseas, the realities of DIY culture, and how professional interior designers can help cut through the noise. It's a timely look at what's changing, what to watch out for, and how to make smarter, more informed design decisions in the age of ever changing technology, and the promise of instant gratification.

Patrick Landrum is the Owner and Principal Interior Designer at PL&D/Patrick Landrum Design, specializing in luxury residential interiors. A graduate of The University of Texas at Austin, he launched his firm in 1992 after a decade with Interior Design Consultants. His work has been featured in the Women's Symphony League of Austin Designer Showhouses, the Zach Scott Theater Showhouse, Architectural Digest's "Beautiful Interiors of Texas," Austin Home & Living, Austin Monthly, Tribeza, and more. He was dubbed "Austin's Sultan of Style" by Lance Avery Morgan, founder and publisher of The Society Diaries and Brilliant Magazine.

Patrick is well know in Austin's philanthropic scene, having chaired numerous fundraisers, and designed over 13 major galas for organizations such as Forklift Danceworks, Ballet Austin, Austin Opera, Austin Musical Theater, Cabaret Austin, and the Human Rights Campaign. His firm regularly donates design consultations to charity auctions. He serves on the board of Forklift Danceworks and has been a longtime member and Board Member of the Austin Opera Guild, currently acting as Social Chair of the Austin Operatti Ambassadors.

Outside of design, Patrick enjoys writing poetry, listening to music, walking Austin's trails, and practicing crochet as a form of meditation.

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 28, 2025

11:30 - 1:00

Introduction by Gayle Hight

## **History and Fate**

The Goodwins and the 1960s







## History and Fate: The Goodwins and the 1960s

Dr. Sarah Sonner

History and Fate, the new exhibition at the Briscoe Center for American History at The University of Texas at Austin, traces the entwining stories of the Goodwins' relationship, their proximity to power, and reflections on a tumultuous era seen in its most intimate moments. Dr. Sarah Sonner will share behind the scenes insights into the development of this exhibit and the rich resources in the Goodwin collections, now available to researchers at the Briscoe Center.

Dr. Sarah Sonner is Director for Curation at the Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin. Sarah joined the Briscoe Center in 2016 and oversees the center's exhibit program and material culture collections. Previously, Sarah served as Curator for the National Endowment for the Humanities' traveling exhibits. Her experience in exhibit development includes roles in research, interpretation, and design coordination at museums such as the Brooklyn Museum and the Victoria & Albert Museum, London. Sarah received her PhD in Cultural Studies from Goldsmiths College, University of London.

# Membership Moment

#### Happy Summer!

Our hot muggy days are back! I know all of us are looking for cool activities indoors - so come to the Chateau on Thursdays and bring a friend! It's a great time to show off our Austin Woman's Club.

It's also time for me to pass the hat and welcome our new Membership Chair - Debbie Cochran. Our Membership Committee will be in capable hands - but remember it is up to each of you to sponsor our new members. Many of us belong to other organizations in our community. Take a look around. I am sure there are many outstanding ladies who would love to join our wonderful club!

Many thanks again to these wonderful ladies who were such assets on our Membership Committee: Ellen Bowman, Ann Brown, Debbie Cochran, Miranda Darr, Teresa Doggett, Diane Hunter, Sylvia Imhoff, Lorrain Maslin and Lillian Montgomery. You were always there when I needed you.

## Website Update

#### **Our AWC Website Just Got Better!**

Tired of keying in a password every time you want to make a reservation or take a peek at the directory? Instead of hunting around trying to find where to look on our website, I have created a new "Members Only Portal" that contains organized information that is proprietary to AWC members.

Here you will find all things AWC! From making reservations, to accessing our calendar, to paying dues - consider this your one-stop shop for members of the Austin Woman's Club! Just click on the "Members Only Portal" button on the top left corner of the home page (www.austinwomansclub.com), and the password is 'chateaubellevue'. It's work in progress, so constructive input is always welcome!

Need help or have questions? Please give me a shout at no-el@austinwomansclub.com.

# Carly's Corner

#### SPRING AT CHATEAU BELLEVUE

Spring is blooming at Chateau Bellevue, and this bridal moment on our iconic stone staircase has us head over heels!

Weddings this season are all about:

- Garden-style florals: Lush, romantic, and a little wild
   Statement sleeves: Think soft drama and old-world elegance
- Historic charm: Couples are loving classic venues with timeless beauty (sound familiar?)
- Photo-worthy moments: Editorial-style portraits are in!

As proud stewards of this beautiful space, we love seeing the Chateau Bellevue shine in every season. Whether you're hosting a wedding, luncheon, or milestone celebration, there's nothing quite like the magic of our historic home.





Photo Credits:
Photographer - Katerina
Timako
Hair - Styles by Yelimar
Makeup - Vicki Kittle
Makeup
Florist - Simply Bliss Events
Planner - The Label Affair
Model - Hope Givtaj