

MAY - JUNE 2025



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## AUSTIN WOMAN'S CLUB

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NEWSLETTER

### A Note from Dot...

Dear Ladies of the Austin Woman's Club,

This will be my final missive to you via our Bi-Monthly Newsletter. I'd like to close this year out with some highlights and take a moment to let all of you know how much I appreciate the hard work of each Board Member this year. We've faced a lot of challenges this year: cessation of our catering lease, employee attrition, board changes, just to name a few. In addition, our Chateau needed constant care and upkeep—rotting floors, a leaky roof, broken stained glass, and a wall in need of immediate repair.

On the brighter side, our finances are turning around slowly. Board members are doing a great job of monitoring committee budgets and keeping expenses in line. Our Grants Committee successfully obtained a \$30,000 grant to study the feasibility of air conditioning our 2nd and 3rd floors. We had a successful experience with Paramount + filming 1923 on site, bringing in much needed revenue. Our 150th Anniversary Gala in November was a huge success, giving us city and state recognition, showing off our grand Chateau in style to members and guests alike.

Best to Anna Speir as she takes the reins of the AWC. She will serve you well, as she has done for so many volunteer positions she held over the years. Fiercely loyal to AWC, Anna will make decisions focused on what's best for the organization.

Having her by my side this year has been extremely enlightening and rewarding. Thank you, Anna, my dear AWC sidekick! Her advice has been most appreciated and welcomed.

And I am grateful for serving as your President and I remain AWC proud.

With Much Gratitude,

*Dot Swanson*

President, Austin Woman's Club





# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## **Sylvia Arabian**

*(Sponsored by Lisa Alverson and Katharine Shields)*

## **Lethe Burns**

*(Former Junior Austin Woman's Club Member)*

## **Lynnda Carter-Mullen**

*(Sponsored by Genie Nyer and Sidney Jones)*

## **Ruth Ann Eledge**

*(Sponsored Lisa Alverson and Jill Klucher)*

## **Lilla Ezell**

*(Sponsored by Sidney Jones, Anna Speir, and Mary Gay Grigg)*

## **Sarah Galey**

*(Sponsored by Karen Haschke and Mary Ann Golden)*

## **Jenny Lambert**

*(Sponsored by Karen Watford and Cyrilla Ivey)*

## **Velyna Morales**

*(Sponsored by Patti Greene and Dot Swanson)*

## **Ceecy Robinson**

*(Sponsored by Mary Ellen Borgelt, Anna Speir, Penny Powell, and Pamela Bell)*

# RESERVATION PROCEDURES

The cost of our regular weekly luncheons is now \$30. You will need to reserve your spot 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 reserve your spot online by clicking the arrow below.
- For seating and dietary requests, please contact Cristal at [reservations@austinwc.org](mailto:reservations@austinwc.org).
- NEW! - For event specific requests like reserving a table, tables settings, decorations, etc., please contact Jordyn at [events@chateauatx.com](mailto:events@chateauatx.com).
- For any other non-reservation matters or questions you may have, please contact Cristal at [cristal@austinwc.org](mailto:cristal@austinwc.org).
- 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.**



MAY 2025



THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

## Cinco De Mayo Celebration at the Chateau!

Wear your most colorful Mexican dress and join us for a festive Mexican buffet! We will have four rounds of Bingo and terrific prizes!

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Susan Ashworth



# Ginny Lindzey

***The Wonders of Spring Migration***

Join **Ginny Lindzey**, Team Leader at Wild Birds Unlimited in West Lake Hills, as she discusses our local birds as well as our spring visitors to the Austin area.

While some birds like hummingbirds and orioles can be enticed to visit your feeders, others may be concealed at the tops of your trees eating insects.

New technology allows us to discover which birds are just outside our doors. When we are more aware of the creatures around us, we care more and do more to protect them.

Ginny Lindzey is the Team Leader (and chalkboard artist) at Wild Birds Unlimited. She was an educator for over 20 years, teaching Latin in Austin and Dripping Springs. Now she has gone to the birds ....

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THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Gayle Hight

**CHARLES PEVETO**

President, Austin History Center Association

**ADAM POWELL**

Executive Director, Austin History Center Association

**HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT AUSTIN? TAKE THE AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER QUIZ**

Austin's "Gateway to History" is on Guadalupe.

Charles Peveto and Adam Powell will give a history of the Austin History Center Association (AHCA), from its founding as a friends group in 1979 as a partner to the Austin History Center and a division of the Austin Public Library.

The newly expanded two-building Austin History Center campus on Guadalupe has the potential of becoming a world-class facility, not only as a depository of Austin's RICH and DIVERSE history, but to tell those stories through meaningful programming..."Our Austin Story".

Charles Peveto is Honorary Chair of the Friends of Chateau Bellevue. He will share what he sees as opportunities for partnership between AHCA and Friends of Chateau Bellevue. Charles will also update us on the Old Austin Neighborhood Association activities.

**CHARLES PEVETO** is a dedicated advocate for Austin's rich and diverse history. A long-time activist in Austin's preservation community, he has played a key role in the Austin History Center's evolution into a formal partner with the City of Austin. An architectural historian and Texas A&M graduate, Charles has served the Texas Historical Commission for over 44 years and is the board president of the Austin History Center Association.

**ADAM POWELL'S** experience is mission-driven — a union organizer, school district administrator, state employee, and political candidate. He is a Texas Christian University graduate with a degree in history, where he gained hands-on experience in archival preservation with TCU Special Collections and the National Archives at Fort Worth. Powell has served as a SAFE Alliance Board Member, Committee Member with CapMetro, and as Vice President of the North Shoal Creek Neighborhood Association.

[Austin City Administration, 1881]



PICA 00818, Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

"Sam Houston" Mail Coach



PICA 26682, Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

[Governor's Mansion]



SEP 64



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THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Lorraine Maslin

## **Emma Haschke, A Trip to Ghana:**

*A look into livestock economies and wildlife health in a growing world.*

Emma Haschke is a newly graduated veterinarian born and raised in Austin, Texas. Growing up with a ranching family in the Texas Hill Country, she quickly grew fond of being around cattle, horses, and any other livestock or wildlife critter she could get her hands on. Emma earned her B.S. in Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from Texas A&M University in 2021 before staying for her professional schooling and earning her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine degree in 2025. Throughout her schooling, Emma took a special interest in working with wildlife, exotic, and domestic large animal species through volunteering with research projects, student organizations, and even traveling abroad. She spoke at the AWC in 2021 on the One Health concept, South African wildlife conservation, and her personal experiences traveling to South Africa as a student.

Emma's presentation will be a continuation on animal health topics focusing on livestock and wildlife in regions working to further develop their agricultural and ecotourism economies. This talk will follow her experiences traveling to Ghana during veterinary school through an NGO to provide vaccinations to livestock, train veterinary staff on infectious disease management in livestock, and all the adventures in between navigating the Ghanaian countryside to learn about the local issues agricultural producers face.



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THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Andrea Stone



## INEZ WOLINS

*Assistant Deputy Executive Director of Historic Sites Texas Historical Commission*

Leading a multidisciplinary team of 150+ in Austin and at 39 historic sites across the state, Inez Wolins is responsible for operations, earned revenue, establishing innovative strategies to increase visitation and participation through educational and interpretive programs and services, and creating impactful exhibitions.

She holds a master's degree in Museology and Art History from Syracuse University and pursued doctoral work in Educational Technology at New York University. She brings to the Texas Historical Commission experience as a museum director and as senior director of education and visitor experience at Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, CM Russell Museum, and the Autry Museum of the American West, among others. Wolins served as Chief of Interpretation and Education with the National Park Service overseeing 16 historic sites along Boston's Freedom Trail, and as Interim Chief of Interpretation & Education for 63 parks in the northeast region.

A frequent reviewer for grants awarded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, she chaired the Interpretation, Volunteers, and Education committee for the National Park Service, was a seven-year board member for the American Alliance of Museums, led the Association of Women Art Museum Directors' Caucus, was on the exhibition and education committee of American Federation of Arts, a reviewer with the National Endowment for the Arts, Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, and Kansas Arts Commission, and chaired the 2023 meeting of the Mountain-Plains Museums Association.

Throughout her tenure with parks and museums, she held joint appointments with graduate programs at Drexel University, Framingham University, Bank Street College of Education, Pratt Institute, and University of South Florida. She has led Interpretive Master Plans and Management Assessments for Gettysburg National Military Park, Eisenhower National Historic Site, Workman and Temple Homestead Museum, New York Historical Society, and Pecos National Historical Park. In addition to consulting with more than 30 museums and historic sites nationwide, Wolins has authored close to 40 journal articles and book chapters about the role of community engagement, education, public history, and visitor experience.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2025

11:30 - 1:00

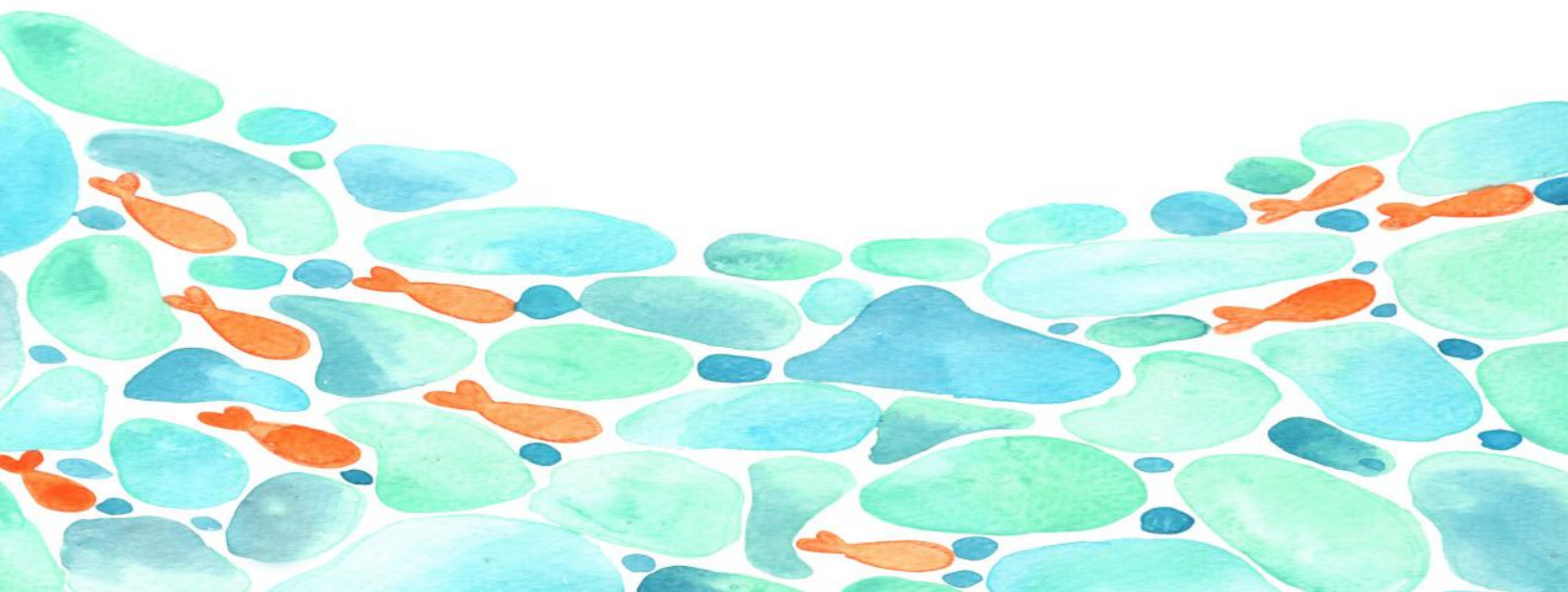
**Joint DAR/AWC Luncheon**

**Celebrating 250 Years of  
our Armed Forces!**

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2025

11:30 - 1:00

**General Meeting**





JUNE 2025

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025

11:30 - 1:00

Introduction by Karen Haschke



## Pompeo Coppini: Italian Classicism in the Lone Star State

*An illustrated survey of Coppini's key works, including the stories of the Littlefield Fountain and the Alamo Cenotaph, will chart Coppini's shift from Confederate monuments to works that have come to define Texas and its heroes.*

**AWC Member, Karen Pope**, PhD in the History of Art (University of Texas, 1981), is a specialist in the modern art of Europe and America. She retired in May 2015 from a full-time position on the Baylor University faculty, teaching art history courses in 19th-century European and American Art, the priority of the Allbritton Art Institute. In addition to three decades of academic teaching, docent training, and informal lecture series, Karen has, since 1995, offered by popular demand lecture programs, art museum daytrips, and art history-rich study tours in the US and Europe through Art inSight Adventures in Art History. Her goal is to expand her companions' understanding of art history, regardless of their backgrounds.



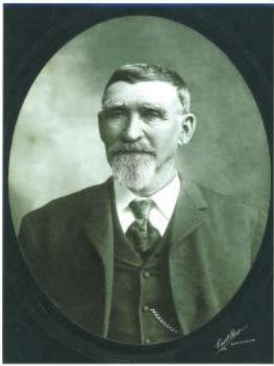
# JUNE 2025

## THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025

### 11:30 - 1:00

Introduction by Gayle Hight

## **Walking Through Walsh Place with the AustinHIPstorian - a Tiny Piece of Tarrytown History *with Linda McCoy***



Join Linda McCoy on a walk through one of the first neighborhoods in Tarrytown. William Walsh was born in Limerick, Ireland, and left his homeland around the age of 14 during the Great Potato Famine. He originally owned 100 acres near today's Lake Austin as well as the land that is now Davenport Ranch. Walsh was a quarryman and lime manufacturer and bought the land as an industrial site as well as a place to raise his 10 children with his wife, Dora. He was a very enterprising, hard-working, and generous

man. His legacy is woven into the very fabric of the neighborhood and Linda will tell his story from Famine to Fortune.



Linda McCoy grew up in San Antonio but got to Austin as soon as she could - and she vows to never leave! She has two grown sons, Zikolos, who teaches English in Osaka, Japan, and Griffen, who is studying Fashion Design at ACC. Linda loves researching Austin's amazing history and says "going down rabbit holes" is her superpower. She has lived in Austin since 1992 and is an avid, competitive standup paddleboarder. She is the current President of the USA SUP and is involved in several environmental nonprofits in Austin, including Keep Austin Beautiful and Shoal Creek Conservancy. Linda recently assisted Walsh's descendants, Chuck Munson and Chris Walsh, in getting the Walsh Boat Landing in Tarrytown rededicated to honor the elder Walsh. She worked with the Mayor's office to have a proclamation declaring March 23, 2025, as William Walsh Day in Austin, Texas.





## *Membership Moment*

Our Membership Spring Fling turned out beautiful!! Thank you to all our members who brought guests and helped to show off our Austin Women's Club and gorgeous Chateau. We had a full house!!

Our dining room shouted out Happy Spring! Thank you to Sylvia Imhoff and Ellen Bowman who put together lovely spring table decorations. And a huge Thank You to my Membership Committee who came up with so many great ideas for both our Membership Drive and our membership ice-breakers. Lots of "atta-a-girls" to Ellen Bowman, Ann Brown, Debbie Cochran, Miranda Darr, Teresa Doggett, Diane Hunter, Sylvia Imhoff, Lorrain Maslain and Lillian Montgomery. You are always quick to send me your approvals as well as help our new members and guests feel welcome. You have made my job easy!

## DUES BLUES

Unfortunately, inflation has taken its toll on all of us, including the Austin Woman's Club and Chateau Bellevue. For years, we have maintained a very moderate dues structure at only \$30 per month (\$360 per year). With costs rising - building maintenance, utilities, insurance, staff salaries, etc., membership voted at the recent General Meeting to increase dues just a bit over \$5 per month (less than the cost of a glass of wine) or \$425 per year for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Annual Dues are due no later than May 1, 2025 (there is a \$25 late for dues received after May 1st). Be an early bird and avoid the late fee!

[Click Here to Pay Your Dues Online.](#)



# Early's Corner

## THE RETURN OF REGAL PORTRAITURE AT CHATEAU BELLEVUE

A new wave of photographers is reviving the grandeur of Victorian and Edwardian-era portraiture, blending formal posing, dramatic lighting, and historic backdrops with a modern editorial touch. Recently, [UnityREEL](https://www.unityreel.info/) beautifully captured this timeless aesthetic at Chateau Bellevue, where the venue's ornate woodwork, stained-glass windows, and antique furnishings set the perfect stage for an engagement session filled with elegance and sophistication.

The bride's stunning traditional Sri Lankan lehenga, adorned with intricate embroidery and rich fabrics, perfectly complemented the venue's regal charm. Her poised presence, along with her fiancé's refined look, evoked the sophistication of 19th-century portraiture, when photography was an art of precision and formality. In the Victorian and Edwardian eras, subjects posed in ornate interiors, exuding elegance and confidence. Long exposure times required still, deliberate expressions, resulting in portraits that convey depth, presence, and a sense of importance—a style that is making a comeback today.

### WHY IT'S TRENDING

As engagement and wedding photography shift toward storytelling with depth and intentionality, couples are embracing timeless, artistic portraits over casual, documentary-style images. The fusion of heritage, culture, and modern sophistication creates images that feel like true heirlooms—much like the painted portraits of centuries past.

Know anyone looking to capture their own timeless love story? Chateau Bellevue is the perfect backdrop for an iconic, elegant photoshoot.

Photography by UnityREEL (<https://www.unityreel.info/>)

