

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2025

AUSTIN WOMAN'S CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Reflections from Anna

Dear Ladies of the Austin Woman's Club,

Many thanks to those members who donated through the AWC to the hill country flood victims. We were able to send a check of \$2,255 to the Austin Disaster Relief Network for flood relief. I know many of you also supported our neighbors through donations to other organizations. Our members truly care about our community.

Mary Ann Golden, Emily Jean Lucid, and Cyrilla Ivy have been working very hard with the Austin Community Foundation concerning the Howson/Mohrmann Scholarship Fund. The AWC established this scholarship fund through major donations by Emilie Wheelock Howson and Helen Mohnmann many years ago. The fund was given to the ACF to manage, but in the past, they have ignored our inquiries about the fund and scholarship recipients. These ladies have managed to get answers from them, and the ACF seems more willing to communicate with us. We hope to introduce this year's scholarship recipient during one of our Thursday luncheons.

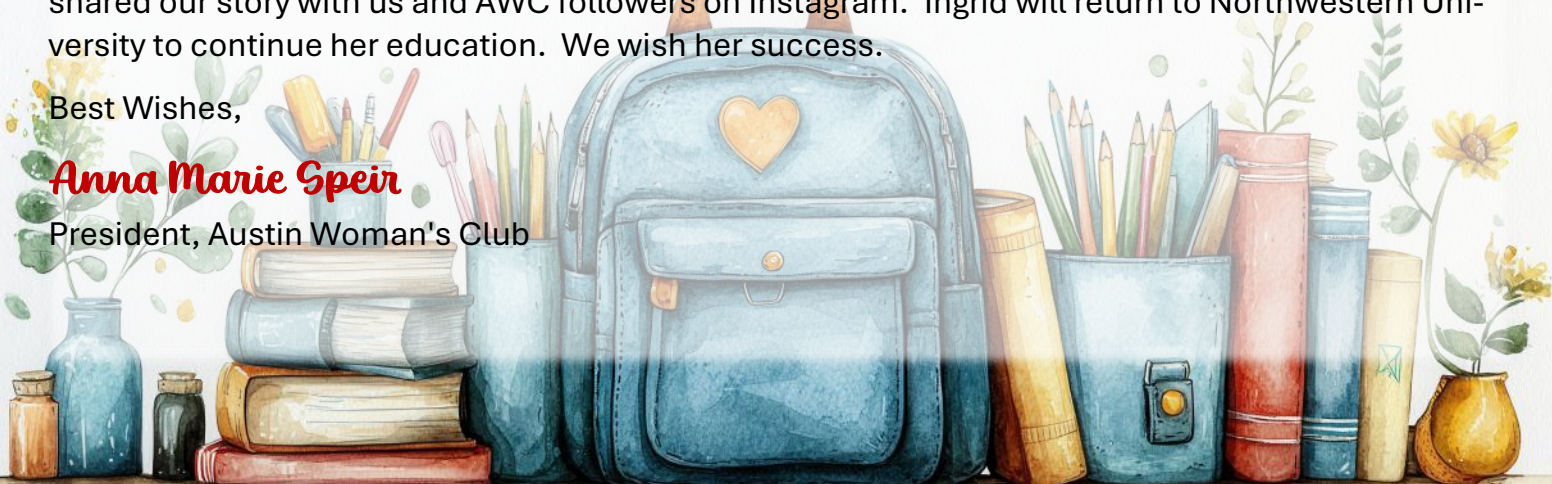
So many of our members are hard at work helping our building look its best. The Grounds Committee led by Anne Yeakel has been diligently planting, watering, and weeding all through our very hot summer. As you enter the building from the parking lot or visit the courtyard, please enjoy the lovely grounds they have created. When you go to the second floor, check out the beautiful dining chairs in the North Family Room. Sylvia Imhoff generously donated these chairs for our use. They work beautifully with the room's colors and other furnishings. Thank you, ladies for helping us look wonderful!

In late August we will sadly say good-bye to our summer intern Ingrid Smith. She has worked very hard creating short videos and writing Chateau Secrets highlighting our beautiful building. She has shared our story with us and AWC followers on Instagram. Ingrid will return to Northwestern University to continue her education. We wish her success.

Best Wishes,

Anna Marie Speir

President, Austin Woman's Club



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Jan Hesselsweet

(Sponsored by Anna Marie Speir and Sidney Jones)

Kelly Hyten

(Sponsored by Anna Marie Speir and Marion More)

Nancy Mueller

(Sponsored by Emily Lucid and Karen Haschke)

Joy Stoddard

(Sponsored by Gayle Hight and Karen Pope)

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.](#)

SEPTEMBER 2025

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Karen Pope

TO COOL OR NOT TO COOL

Tere O'Connell, principal of O'Connell Preservation Architecture, is AWC's preservation consultant and successor to long-time AWC friend and advisor, John Volz. Tere will present the grant-funded proposal for the long-needed, now critical HVAC system designed to give the historic Chateau Bellevue 2nd and 3rd floors the conditioned and stabilized environment necessary to preserve the historic furnishings and finishes. Tere will elucidate the challenges and complexities of the project to help us understand its importance and its cost.



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

9:45 A.M.

New Member Orientation

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

General Meeting

SEPTEMBER 2025

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

10:00 A.M - 1:00 P.M.

Mark Your Calendar!

Invite Your Friends!

**Plan to Attend the Fall Back to School Style
Show at Chateau Bellevue!**

Thursday, September 18, 2025

10:00 a.m. - Doors open for Shopping

11:30 a.m. - Style Show followed by a delicious lunch

Sarah Summers from The Gift Solution Boutique will present the latest fall fashions modeled by members of AWC.

Come shop 'til you drop and support the preservation of beautiful Chateau Bellevue.

Tickets \$65

[Purchase Tickets](#)



On the Menu

Mimosas
Chicken Piccata
Caesar Salad
Pasta
Green Beans
Garlic Bread
Cheesecake

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

1:00 - 4:00 P.M.

AUSTIN MUSEUM DAY AT CHATEAU BELLEVUE

Join us as we open the doors of **Chateau Bellevue** to the public during **Austin Museum Day**, a citywide celebration of art, culture, history, music, nature, science, and play! This annual event, coordinated by the Austin Museum Partnership since 1998, offers **free admission** and special programming at dozens of local museums and cultural institutions.

We're asking members to volunteer between **12:45 to 4:00 PM** to serve as friendly greeters and keep an eye out for "sticky hands." Our wonderful docents will be on hand to share stories and history about **Chateau Bellevue, The Woman's Club, and Major Ira Evans**.

Dress the Part!

If you still have your period dress from the Gala, we'd love for you to wear it! Others are welcome to wear any period-style dress. (Need one? Amazon has great options!)

Let's come together to showcase the beauty and history of our Club—and help Austin celebrate its rich cultural heritage!

Contact Sandy Cangelosi if you are able to participate. sandy.cangelosi@gmail.com

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Darksky Texas

Frank Cronin



Frank Cronin has tutored and taught in Developmental Education at Austin Community College (ACC) since 1987. In his academic career he has served on the Board of Teachers of English for Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Central Texas Chapter from 1996-2004. From 2010-2012 he was secretary for the Texas Association of Developmental Education. He became interested in Darksky International due to his interest in Astronomy. In 2021 and 2022, he presented "Darkness at the End of the Tunnel: Solutions to Light Pollution" at ACC Earth Week Programs. Darksky Texas promotes the use of better lighting to help restore our view of the nighttime sky, improve the safety and well-being of people and wildlife, and save energy. Frank retired from ACC at the end of 2022 and looks forward to being more involved with Darksky Texas.

SEPTEMBER 2025

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

6:30 P.M.

Spanish Wine Dinner

Appetizers

Cod Croquettes

Shrimp with Garlic Sauce

Raventos i Blanc Blanc de Blanc

First Course

Ensaladilla Rusa (Potato Salad)

Santiago Ruiz Rias Baixas Albarino

Entrée

Spanish-Style Boneless Short Ribs

LAN Rioja Crianza

Dessert

Almond Cake

Valdespino Pedro Ximenez El Candado

\$95 Per Person

[Click Here to Purchase Online](#)

Or

Contact Leslie Thomas for a reservation: L-Thomas@att.net,
4211 Tallowood Dr, Austin, TX 78731

OCTOBER 2025

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2025

11:30 - 1:00 P.M.

Introduction by Sandy Blevins

***“We know what we are but know not what
we may be.”***
(Hamlet)

**A Conversation with Ann Ciccolella, Artistic Director of Austin
Shakespeare, on Living the Creative Life**

Ann Ciccolella loves to spark creative and innovative ideas, both through her role as Artistic Director of Austin Shakespeare and through her weekly group, *The Artist's Way*. Created in 1984, Austin Shakespeare is one of the leading nonprofit theater companies in central Texas. *The Artist's Way* is a workshop method for anyone interested in living more creatively. During her conversation at AWC on October 2, Ann will share her journey to her current position, including her thoughts on what Shakespeare means to her, the importance of integrating creativity into everyone's life, and the challenges of managing a professional theater company in Austin.

Ann is an accomplished playwright and has adapted several shows for Austin Shakespeare, including *The Odyssey*, *The Seagull*, and *O. Henry Stories*. Her script *Madam X*, based on the painting by John Singer Sargent, was described by one reviewer as “developing an absorbing inquiry into art's purpose and place in our lives.”

Ann will be interviewed by AWC member, Dr. Patricia Greene. Patti is Professor Emerita at Babson College and served as the 18th Director of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor. She is an amateur Shakespeare enthusiast.

OCTOBER 2025

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025

11:30 - 1:00

Introduced by Susan Ashworth

40 Years an Addiction Psychiatrist

(and still most people don't get it)

William Loving, MD, ASAM



Dr. Loving was Board Certified in Psychiatry 1982 and in Addiction Medicine in 1984. He is a former Medical Director of Renaissance Program at Shoal Creek Hospital and of Texas Star Recovery at Texas NeuroRehab and is the cofounder of Communities for Recovery.

“ Thank you to all of our Austin Woman’s Club members who brought school supplies for the Jeremiah Program. I know the program really appreciates our donations and that there will be lots of smiles from the children! Thank you!”



OCTOBER 2025

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025

11:30 - 1:00

Introduction by Gayle Hight

Home Economics and the Muppets

Robyn Metcalfe/Joy Stoddard

Aside from Martha Stewart and the film *Lessons in Chemistry*, you probably haven't heard much about Home Economics recently. Now, home economics is about to reappear, although not as it existed during the early 19th century. Dr. Metcalfe, historian, former professor at UT, and co-founder of The Lunar Society will reveal how the founders of home economics and its graduates made contributions to science to reshape our homes, our clothing, and what we eat. Even more than household solutions, graduates of home economics were innovators in both the scientific and artistic fields. As we begin the journey towards an AI-driven world, Metcalfe shares her insights about how the mindset instilled through home economics may empower us to thrive as humans.



Robyn Metcalfe is a historian, author, executive producer, and Founder of The Lunar Society, an experience design group. She is intensely curious about how things work, human and their stories, and how we navigate the inter-

section our digital and analog worlds. For decades, she explored how our food systems evolved from the 19th century into the future. As an author, she wrote *The New Wizard War*, *Meat, Market, and the City*, *Food Routes*, and *Humans in Our Food*. As Executive Producer, she produced several documentary films, including *The Long Coast*, *Arc of Oblivion*, and *Shelf Life*. Her previous experiences include The University of Texas at Austin, Kelmscott Rare Breeds Farm, Arthur D. Little, and Sunset Magazine. Robyn received her bachelor's degree in history from the University of Michigan, and her Masters and Doctorate degrees at Boston University, both in Modern European History. You can learn more about her work at www.robynsmetcalfe.com.



Joy Stoddard believes that everyone has the right and potential to flourish, and we all need support at one time or another during our lives. Joy spent 23.5 years at Whole Foods Market, at first opening stores

and training thousands of employees. Then she served as Development Director for its non-profit Whole Planet, dedicated to alleviating poverty, helping to raise \$140 million to fund 7 million microcredit loans for low-income entrepreneurs - mostly women - in 80 countries including 26 U.S. cities such as Austin. Now, she is Vice President of Development at Free To Choose Network, raising awareness and funds for documentaries advancing capitalism and freedom, and its educational affiliate non-profit izzit.org, which provides free materials to teachers to inspire students to think critically and flourish in a free society. Joy joined AWC and the Development Committee in July 2025 and she has lived in central Austin for 25 years.

[Click Here to See a Sneak Preview of the Presentation](#)

OCTOBER 2025

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025

11:30 - 1:00

Introduction by Karen Haschke



Deborah B. Blanchette Texas Quilt Museum

Though it is hot now, it will cold before we know it. It is a good time to get 'Grandma's' quilt out of a closet or bottom drawer. **Deborah B. Blanchette** with the Texas Quilt Museum of La Grange will be joining us. She will talk about the history of Quilts- the intricate details in designs and meaning of those designs.

OCTOBER 2025

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2025
LUNCHEON AND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
11:30 - 1:00

Introduction by Andrea Stone

Just Who is Sleeping in the Texas State Cemetery?

Nathan Stephens - Texas State Cemetery

Nathan Stephens serves as the Administrator of the Texas State Cemetery, one of the most unique historical sites in the state. Nathan has had the honor of managing prominent funerals, public events, and outreach programs at the Cemetery since 2018. He will be speaking on the history of the Texas State Cemetery and some of the honored Texans who lay at rest there.

The Texas State Cemetery was founded in 1851 as a burial ground for lawmakers and public servants. Since that time, the Cemetery has evolved into the final resting place for Texans who have made significant contributions to Texas history and culture in any number of fields, from artists and athletes to scientists and scholars; it has come to represent the best of Texas and what makes it such a special place.

Born and raised in Houston, Nathan has lived in Austin more than 35 years. Nathan first entered state government service in the 1990s, serving under two House Speakers as Assistant Sergeant at Arms in the Texas House of Representatives. He then founded and operated several building and development companies, producing diverse types of residential housing in the greater Austin area before returning to state service as Cemetery Administrator.

Nathan and his wife Ginger are avid campers, especially enjoying their stays at the many beautiful and diverse Texas State Parks. They love spending time at home with their two dogs, and cherish the visits they enjoy with Nathan's adult sons Jacob and Lucas.

Membership Moment

Hello Fall!

We have much to look forward to as we head into the welcomed fall months: cool temps, college football and of course, outstanding AWC luncheon programs. Check out the September and October programs in this newsletter. Think about which of your friends, family and acquaintances would enjoy our delicious luncheons following the most engaging speakers on these relevant and interesting topics. We love to host/meet your guests and possibly interest them in AWC membership. Become a guest hostess or new member sponsor this fall!

A note from one of AWC's New Members Sponsors ...

"I have so enjoyed being a member of the Austin Woman's Club! I have made so many wonderful new friends, so sponsoring is a wonderful opportunity to share our club with new acquaintances."

**Karen Watford
AWC Superstar Sponsor**

Website Update

A Treasure Hunt at Your Finger Tips!

We are still working on gathering members' photos for our directory (please send us one if you haven't already, but in the meantime be sure to check out all the Committees! You can see who is Chair this year and who the committee members are.

There is also a new section in the main menu that highlights all our Historical and Educational Programs that we have hosted since 2020. We also have a new page that highlights our Scholarship! Be sure to check out upcoming events for all the latest happenings as well!

Remember our Portal Password is 'chateaubellevue.' Need help or have questions? Please give me a shout at noel@austinwomansclub.com.