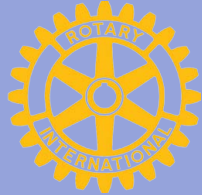
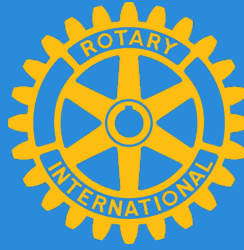


ROTARY REMINDER

Club 63, District 5870

Rotary
Club of Austin



Club Meetings/Speakers

March 04, 2025
Leana Mann, TCAD Chief Appraiser (Travis County Appraisal District)
TCAD 101: How the Appraisal District Works For You

March 11, 2025
Jamila Thomas
Update on DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion)

March 18, 2025
NO MEETING --
AISD/UT/ACC Spring Breaks + SXSW

March 25, 2025
Paula Bookidis, CEO - Girl Scouts of Central Texas

April 01, 2025
Jeremy Martin, President/CEO - Austin Chamber of Commerce

Other Meetings/Events

March 11th
March-VP/Officer Meeting

March 12th
Downtown Breakfast Cluster

March 13th
Early Act First Knight (EAFK) - Wayside REAL Learning Academy

March 25th
RCA Board of Directors Meeting

March 27th
North Breakfast Cluster

March 28th
Early Act First Knight (EAFK) - Hart Elementary

Club Officers

Darrick Wayne Eugene
President
Cynthia Brummer

Meeting Speaker - Laura Mann: TCAD Chief Appraiser

By Matthew Dargis on Sunday, March 2, 2025



Leana Mann
Chief Appraiser

Leana Mann
TCAD Chief Appraiser

A graduate of Texas State University, Mann has more than a decade of experience with TCAD and has held a variety of positions with the District, including staff accountant, Finance and Facilities Director, Deputy Chief of Operations, and Deputy Chief Appraiser. She is a Certified Government Finance Officer (CGFO) and Registered Professional Appraiser (RPA).

Mann has served as Chief Appraiser since March 2024.

2-18-25, 2-25-25 Meeting Highlights

February 18, 2025 Gordon Daugherty

Gordon Daugherty is a bestselling author, seasoned business executive, startup advisor and investor. He is co-founder and chairman of Capital Factory, where he spends 100 percent of his time educating, advising, and investing in startups. Gordon took us on a trip down memory lane with the stated objective of dispossessing us or anyone listening, from the notion that Austin's high-tech and startup growth occurred in the last 10 or 20 years. He gave some interesting statistics comparing 1990s Austin to Austin in 2025 where today's population and economy are five times greater while the growth in startups and venture capital is 50 times greater. According to Gordon, the foundation for this growth started in the 50s, 60s and 70s with the location of IBM and AMD and a focus on hardware. Then in the 80s came Sematech. Those development spurred initiatives like Tivoli and Trilogy that launched the enterprise software wave in Austin. Next Gordon took us through the founding of the Capitol Factory. He and his co-founder sought to replicate the tech incubators in California, originally offering to help them locate in Austin. When the California interests declined, they decided to go it alone and started the three month boot camp for startups which eventually became the Capitol Factory. The Capitol Factory set out to be the Center of Gravity for Entrepreneurs in Austin, helping entrepreneurs find the three fundamental truths for success, money, customers and talent. Since then, the mission has expanded throughout Texas as has the tagline "Center of Gravity for Entrepreneurs in Texas." The Capitol Factory has become the most active early-stage venture capital fund in the nation and was instrumental in attracting the Army Futures Command to Austin.

February 25, 2025 Annuia Camp Enterprise Celebration

Our annual Camp Enterprise celebration was led by President Elect Cindy Brummer. Prior to the student presentations, PE Cindy Brummer took the helm with her innovative style and leadership. After opening the meeting, we were treated to a reflective invocation by Vlad Bahrencu that highlighted America's exceptionality. Thank you, Vlad. Next PE Cindy lead us

President -Elect
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 Club Foundation (ARCF)
 Chair
 President -Nominee
Sylvia Holmes
 iPast President
Charles Holleman
 Club Treasurer
Naomi Val Bourgeois
 Club Director
R. John Fox Jr.
 Club Director
Mark D. Johnson
 Club Director
Kristoffer Sterling Lands
 Club Director
Paul Roger Williamson
 Club Director
Ann Marie Ellis PhD
 Global Service Avenue
 VP
 Club Foundation (ARCF)
 Trustee
Teresa Finney
 Club Service Avenue VP
PDG Scott Rainey
 Membership Service
 Avenue VP
Mary L. Reynolds
 Community Service
 Avenue VP
Andrew Swanson
 Club Foundation (ARCF)
 Trustee
 Vocational Service
 Avenue VP
Mary Bird Bowman
 Club Foundation (ARCF)
 Treasurer
Dale Lowe
 Club Foundation (ARCF)
 Trustee
 Club Foundation(ARCF)
 Vice Chair
Vlad Bahrencu
 Club Foundation (ARCF)
 Trustee
Amy M. Jackson
 Club Foundation (ARCF)
 Trustee
Peter R. Meeker
 Club Foundation (ARCF)
 Trustee
Jaime Phillips
 Club Foundation (ARCF)
 Trustee
W. Gaines Bagby
 Rotary Foundation
 (TRF) Liaison
John Anderson
Barclay IV
 Sergeant-at-Arms
Michael Abelson
 Club Programs Chair
Jennifer Olsen
 Club Executive
 Secretary
 Executive Director

Birthdays

William J. Davies Jr.
 March 8th
 Hugh K. Higgins Jr.
 March 11th
 Leslie Gwinn Bagby
 March 16th
 Donald W. Tompkins
 March 19th
 Regina Buschhorn
 March 19th
 Russ Finney
 March 22nd
 Todd L. Coleman
 March 25th

in a public display of thankfulness and a vocabulary lesson. YES!!! Lastly, we inducted new member Merritt Spencer, Senior Counsel at the law firm of Clark Hill PLC. Then we were treated to a presentation by the founders of FE Mini the students that won the 2025 RCA Camp Enterprise Business Plan Competition. Occurring from February 20-22, Camp Enterprise is a 3-day overnight camp where the Club hosts local high school juniors at Camp Buckner for a workshop on entrepreneurship and free enterprise. The students are treated to presentations from local business leaders including RCA members Cindy Brummer (Standard Beagle) and Dr. Michael Abelson (the Abelson Group) as well as local entrepreneurs, like Bill Baillette (Novastone) Matt Shook (Juiceland) Cindy Lo (Red Velvet) and Jonathan Coon (Impossible Ventures). The students compete on developing and commercializing a product or service. This years winners were the FE Mini, mini-iron team composed Valeria Gonzalez-Red (St. Stephens), Neha Juluri (Glenn), Clara Seawright (Hyde Park), Miller Kenney-Morrow (Dripping Springs), Molly Frost (Austin High), Ella Nguyen (St. Michaels) and Brodie Murchinson (St. Andrews). They developed a battery powered compact iron that could be used on clothing while the person is wearing it! How forward thinking. We know these students and all that participated in Camp Enterprise will go far.

Club Meeting Details: Join us in-person or on Zoom!

This week's meeting will be held in-person at Ben Hur Shrine Temple (7811 Rockwood Lane, Austin, Texas) and also live-streamed on Zoom!!

For those of you who can't join us in-person, you're invited to our LIVESTREAM Weekly Lunch Program!

When: Every Tuesday (almost) Noon to 1 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

*****For our Zoom guests, please clear your caches and bookmarked Zoom meeting links and check your time zone settings.*****

QuickLink:

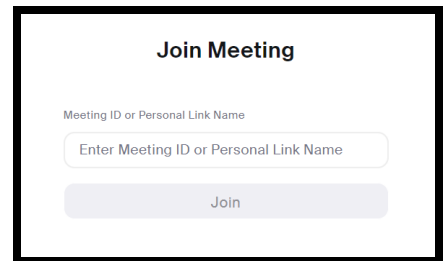
<https://rotary-austin-org.zoom.us/j/85690378301?pwd=bXMxcDBqK1drNmNqZW1ZV3JIZ2FFdz09>

IMPORTANT STEPS TO CONNECT TO OUR WEEKLY MEETING, USING THE FOLLOWING MEETING ID & PASSWORD TO LOGIN:

When the Rotary year begins on July 1st, we have a new meeting link. You should always be able to connect by **typing in the Meeting ID and password** as shown here.

- 1) Go to zoom.us/join
- 2) Enter the meeting ID in this box and passcode if prompted
 (Meeting ID: **856 9037 8301** Passcode: **361851**)

IMPORTANT: *We'll have complimentary cookies, coffee, tea or water available at the meeting. If you'd like a full meal, however, please bring your own lunch with you, or you can order from Jack Allen's Kitchen on Anderson Lane and have it delivered. Click [HERE](#) for instructions on ordering.*



Meet and Greet w/ President Elect Cindy



Who is the incoming president of the Rotary Club of Austin? Now's your chance to get to know President Elect Cindy Brummer and find out more about her vision and plans for the new year. These informal, small group, in-person sessions are hosted on various Wednesday and Thursday evenings from April 1-June 7 and are intended for groups of up to 10. [Read More](#)

RCA Sounding Board – Chat with President-Elect Cindy!

Have thoughts, ideas, or questions about our club? I'm here to listen! Whether you have suggestions for the future of RCA or just want to connect, I'd love to hear from you. [Read More](#)



RCA's Election for the Board of Directors is Coming Up!

Our annual election for the Rotary Club of Austin's Board of Directors is coming up at the end of the month, and you'll be asked to vote for **three (3)** of the following candidates (to serve two-year terms from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2027):

****All 8 of the following candidates were submitted by RCA's Nominating Committee and were approved by the current Board of Directors****

Tom Anderson

Tom brings extensive leadership experience from his tenure as Interim Commissioner of Education at the Texas Education Agency and his time as Deputy Commissioner for 12 years. He has also served as Superintendent of Schools for the San Marcos CISD and held leadership roles in various educational organizations. As a Rotary member for seven years, he has chaired the Scholarship Committee and the Club and District Global Grant Scholarships, demonstrating his dedication to education and service.

Leslie Bagby

Leslie is a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN), Licensed Dietitian (LD), and Certified Nutrition Support Clinician (CNSC) with extensive experience in clinical nutrition and dietetics. She currently serves as the Coordinator for the Texas WIC Dietetic Internship, where she mentors and trains future dietitians. Previously, Leslie worked as a Nutrition Support Dietitian at Coram Specialty Infusion, providing specialized nutritional care to patients requiring infusion therapy. In the Rotary community, she has been actively involved in leadership roles, including serving as the Coordinator of Rotary Friendship Exchange for District 5870. Additionally, Leslie has contributed to many of the Rotary Club of Austin's initiatives, such as co-chairing Camp Enterprise, a program designed to educate high school juniors about the free enterprise system.

Andy Barclay

Andy has a strong background in the insurance industry, holding multiple certifications and 20 years of experience. He has served as President of the Austin Cosmopolitan Rotary Club and on their Board of Directors. His leadership extends to roles such as Sergeant-at-Arms and VP of Administration, where he coordinated speakers for club meetings. Andy is also deeply involved in community service, organizing blood drives and supporting international clean water projects.

Gabriella Cooper

Gabriella has been a dedicated Rotarian since 2017, first joining the Rotary Club of Kona Mauka in Hawaii before moving to Austin in 2020. In Kona, she served on the board of the Club Foundation for two years and chaired the Global Services Committee. She also successfully led the club's annual fundraising gala, raising over \$50,000 each year. Gabriella has sponsored four new members—two in Hawaii and two in Austin. Her passion lies in international service, and she has consistently supported various service committees. Before retirement, Gabriella had a diverse career as a flight attendant for PanAm and later as a Sales Manager for BFI, a major waste removal company.

Jill Johnson

Jill has extensive nonprofit leadership experience, having served multiple terms on the board of directors for Easter Seals Central Texas, including a term as board president. She was also a Trustee and Vice Chair of her downtown church board. As a Rotary member since 2017, she has been actively involved in membership engagement and retention, serving as Red Badge Co-Chair and a member of the retention committee.

Julianne Shively

Julianne is a seasoned real estate professional with over three decades of experience in valuation and consulting. She holds the prestigious MAI and AI-GRS designations from the Appraisal Institute, reflecting her expertise in commercial real estate appraisal and review. Julianne currently leads Harris Shively & Co., a firm specializing in a wide range of real estate valuation services. Her extensive background includes complex property assessments, market analysis, and strategic consulting, making her a valuable asset to any organization seeking informed real estate decisions.

Teresa Taylor

Teresa has over 30 years of experience in entertainment, producing large-scale events, television shows and advertising campaigns. She has led major projects such as TV MOVES! LIVE and has worked with international organizations. In Rotary, she is the current chair of the Scholarship Committee and has organized fundraisers like Surfboards on Parade. Teresa is passionate about education and team leadership.

Corey Wilson

Corey is a mechanical engineer with over 30 years of experience in the construction industry, currently serving as President of Kidd Roofing. A Rotarian for 15 years, he has been deeply involved in community service, particularly through the Membership Services Committee. He has also served on the Board of Directors for Rodeo Austin for 20 years, chairing multiple committees.

Operation Vacation latest recipient

IMG_1862.jpg



The Rotary Clubs of Austin and Killeen hosted a military family for a special R&R in Austin this weekend. The Sonesta Hotel Bee Caves provided a two-night stay with breakfast each morning and Rotary Killeen arranged a free rental car from Toyota Killeen and provided gas money.

The Rotary Club of Austin packed backpacks for each member of the family with gifts, toys, books, souvenirs, clothes, fast food gift cards and snacks. And the County Line on the Hill hosted a private dinner of "All you can eat" Best BBQ in Austin. SSG Brown and his family could not believe that there was no pre-planned schedule for the weekend it instead they were left to have quality time with their family and explore Austin. This is one of many quality community projects Rotary supports.

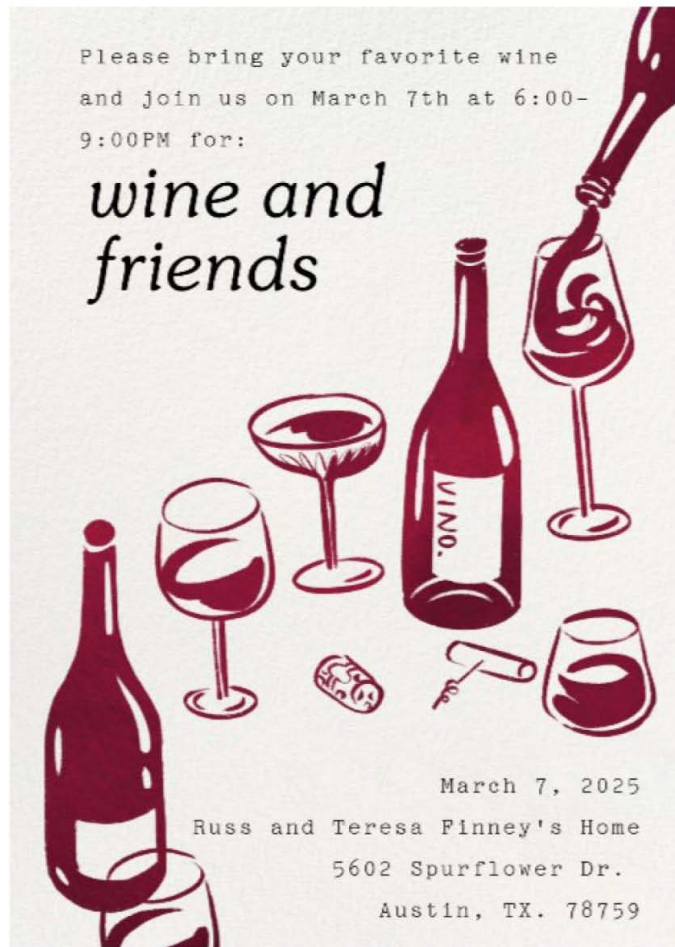
Next Week's Speaker/Program Preview - Jamila Thomas (CEO, Cultured Consulting Group)

By Matthew Dargis on Sunday, March 2, 2025



Wine & Friends on Friday, March 7th - Hosted by Russ & Teresa Finney

Veni, Vidi, Bibimus



Prospective Member(s) 10-Day Notice(s)

Per the request of the Board of Directors, all prospective/transferring members will now be posted in the *Rotary Reminder* (newsletter) for an open review period by all members. We've received the following Proposed Member Application(s) for consideration:

Karen Quandt (sponsored by Ann Marie Ellis)

Please notify **Jennifer Olsen**, RCA's Executive Director, if you have anything you'd like to share about **Karen**.

Promote your business, support our Club!



- * Advertising space costs only \$250 for 6 months of promotion (\$500/yr)!
- * ALL PROCEEDS go toward helping CLUB OPERATIONS!
- * Contact the Rotary Office for details.

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Ordering Your Tuesday Lunch For Delivery From Jack Allen's Kitchen

YES, THE RUMORS ARE TRUE...LUNCHES HAVE RETURNED TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF AUSTIN!



If you're planning to attend one of our regularly scheduled Tuesday Rotary meetings and would like to enjoy a meal, you can pre-order one from Jack Allen's Kitchen on Anderson Lane and have it delivered directly to Ben Hur! Or, if you're not hungry, you can skip lunch and grab a complimentary cookie and/or coffee, tea or water instead.

It's easy, and you can order from your PC or even your smartphone! **If you've ordered before and remember what to enter for delivery, just click the Jack Allen's Kitchen icon (or go to www.jackallenskitchen.com).**

IMPORTANT NOTE: Lunch orders are only accepted on Tuesday mornings for same-day delivery and must be placed no later than 10:30 am!

If you've never ordered before, or if you've forgotten how, here are the instructions (including HOW and WHAT to specify that your order is for delivery) --> [Steps to Order Rotary Lunch](#)

All meals will be "made-to-order" from Jack Allen's Kitchen on Anderson Lane (across the street from Ben Hur) and will

be delivered by them, too. Each will be individually packaged and labeled with your name.

One Austin icon serving another Austin icon...Don't you just love this town?!?

ROTARY CARES HOW YOU'RE DOING!!!

HOW ARE THINGS IN YOUR LIFE?!?

Is there anything that your Rotary Club of Austin "family" can support you with (i.e. family changes, death of a loved one, illness or other health concerns, lost a job, other professional needs, etc.) or do you know of another Rotarian who may need help?

Click [here](#) to let us know
(or you can send an e-mail to
office@rotary-austin.org)



[ROTARY CARES](#)

Club Meeting Place and Time

Austin
Meets at Ben Hur Shrine Temple
7811 Rockwood Lane
Austin, TX 78757
Time: Tuesday at 12:00 PM

RCA Vision Statement: To build a diverse fellowship of Austin-area business and community leaders transforming lives throughout the world.