



ROTARY REMINDER

ROTARY CLUB OF AUSTIN



CLUB NO. 63. DISTRICT 5870. AUSTIN, TX.

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 42

MAY 21, 2019

PRESIDENT

Julia Benkoski

PRESIDENT ELECT

Bill Davies

PAST PRESIDENT

Sara Pantin

VICE PRESIDENTS

Club Service—Pauline Gubbels

Community Service—Mary Reynolds

Global Service—Girish Altekari

Membership Service—Tillery Castillo

Vocational Service—Richard Payton

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Ann Graham

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Jaime Phillips

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Jon Yates

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jennifer Olsen

FUTURE PROGRAMS

5/28—Jonathan Coon,
Co-Founder of 1-800 Contacts

6/4—Paul Bielamowicz, Texas
Facilities Commission (Capitol
Complex/Texas Mall)

6/11—James L. Haley, Service
Above Self in Texas History

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

5/22—EAFK Knighting Ceremony
at Hart Elementary (8301 Furness
Drive), 8:30 a.m.

5/23—RCA Global Perspectives
Evening of Discussion (Topic:
Southeast Asia Business
Perspectives), Napa Flats
Wood-Fired Kitchen,
6:30-8:00 p.m. ([See flyer on
page 6 for more information](#))

[See the Social Circle Update
\(on page 3\) for additional dates](#)

This Week's Program

BILL HAYS AND DEREK TINKER Switch Energy Alliance



Pursuing A Smart Energy Future. Energy underpins all aspects of modern life, and the lack of energy inhibits over 2.5 billion people from entering into modern life, but most people really don't understand energy. **Derek Tinker and Bill Hays** of Switch Energy Alliance (SEA), an Austin-based non-profit, will analyze difficult energy questions: What kinds of energy will actually address climate change globally and at scale? What are the options to lift 1/3 of the world from energy poverty and the impacts of doing so? What is the "energy transition" and can it happen quickly?

Switch Energy Alliance (SEA) is an Austin-based non-profit whose mission is to inspire an energy-educated future. Building on the global energy film *Switch*—viewed in over 50 countries by 15 million people—SEA develops world class film and serves it via state-of-the-art web delivery. SEA has programs that reach K-12, higher education, professionals and the public.

Bill Hays joined Switch Energy Alliance in May 2018 and acts as SEA's Director of Operations. Prior to joining SEA, Bill had a 35-year career as a corporate attorney in private practice and as in-house counsel with Citigroup and Nissan.

Derek Tinker joined Switch Energy Alliance in August 2016 after completing a Master's degree in Petroleum Engineering at the University of Texas – Austin. Derek is the Director of Technology at SEA and is responsible for building and maintaining SEA's website (www.switchon.org).

RECAP FROM LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Karen Aston—Head Coach, University of Texas' Women's Basketball Team

May 14, 2019

Reported by Girish Altekar

President Julie called the meeting to order. **Jim Innes** led the pledges and **Carl Noble** gave our invocation of the day. **Jon Yates** led us in saying the *Four Way Test*. **Nick Hesselsweet** greeted each member and guest as they arrived and **Carl Noble** stepped back up to the podium to introduce our guests and visitors.

Congratulations to **John Fox** (PHF +2), **Pauline Gubbels** (PHF +8) and **Debbie Simmons** (PHF +2)! We appreciate your continued support of The Rotary Foundation!

Past President Sara Pantin described her Rotary journey that started 26 years ago in California during the *Membership Minute*. She joined the Silicon Valley Club as a corporate executive to network and stayed on for a decade after she found herself attracted by service and the people, ending as the President of their Club. She came back to Austin around 2001, joined our Club and has served in many roles, including Club President of the Rotary Club of Austin in 2017! She currently serves on our Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Tillery Castillo reminded us about the Spring Garden and Membership Party that the Benkoski's are hosting at their house this Saturday.

Caroline Valentine announced our Club's inaugural Global Perspectives Dinner which will be held at Napa Flats Wood-Fired Kitchen on May 23rd.

President Julie reminded us to check-in on Meetup and Facebook, and she also reminded us about the Mastermind Group Meeting coming up this Thursday morning as well as the EarlyAct FirstKnight (EAFK) knighting ceremonies coming up at Pecan Springs and Dawson Elementary Schools on Friday.

We heard about two **SAVE THE DATE** events coming up soon – Our annual *Changing of the Guard Party* will be on **June 26th** at Matt's El Rancho and the *Back-to-School Splash Bash* that we host every year at the Helping Hand Home for Children is coming up on Saturday, **July 27th**!

After several minutes of Fellowship, **Judge Sylvia Holmes** introduced our speaker, **Coach Karen Aston**, who spoke about her team building responsibilities as the UT Women's Basketball Coach. Sylvia remarked about Coach Aston's practice of wearing 3-inch heels, even while coaching at the games.

Coach Aston acknowledged that she does wear 3-inch heels, not just to overcome her short physical stature, but also to ensure that her team knows that they are being taught by a professional woman coach who brings a tough package in a small body.

She mentioned that her team members are all outstanding young ladies who work hard at their two jobs (as students and as basketball players). They are engaged in their sport for nearly the entire year, including the summer months when they also take extra courses to catch up with their academics. Coach remarked that this year her team has been fun to watch with an attractive playing style, and next year they will be even better as three potential starters recover from their injuries. She invited us to come see them at a game and get to know the players!

Coach Aston's coaching philosophy is that being a part of the team must be something that you are passionate about because it will change your life. Her job is to teach "her girls" about the 4Cs: Commitment, Communication, Care and Character as the driving characteristics of a successful team.

She concluded that it takes special kids to succeed both in UT academics and basketball, and she would like to work with us to involve her team in volunteering in some of our community service activities since they enjoy "giving back" in addition to playing basketball. *Story continues on page 5.*

SOCIAL CIRCLE UPDATE

Wednesday, May 22 — *DATE CHANGE*** EAFK Knighting Ceremony
at Hart Elementary (8301 Furness Drive) at 8:30 a.m.**

**Thursday, May 23 — RCA Global Perspectives Evening of Discussion
Topic: Southeast Asia Business Perspectives
at Napa Flats Wood-Fired Kitchen
from 6:30-8:00 p.m.**

**RSVP with Chad Thompson (cthompson@pegplanning.com)
See flyer on page 6 for more details!**

**Thursday, May 30—RCA North Breakfast Cluster Meeting
at Waterloo Ice House (on Burnet Road) at 7:00 a.m.**

**Wednesday, June 12—Downtown Austin Breakfast Cluster Meeting
at Magnolia Café (on Lake Austin Blvd.) at 7:00 a.m.**

*****SAVE THE DATE*** Wednesday, June 26 ***SAVE THE DATE***
End-of-Year Changing of the Guard Party
at Matt's El Rancho (on S. Lamar) from 6:30-9:00 p.m.
More details soon—but for now, SAVE THE DATE!!!**

*****SAVE THE DATE*** Saturday, July 27 ***SAVE THE DATE***
ANNUAL Back-to-School Splash Bash
at the Helping Hand Home for Children from 8:30-1:30 p.m.
Volunteers will be needed!!
If you'd like to help out, please contact Mark Johnson
More details soon—but for now, SAVE THE DATE!!!**

ROTARY BIRTHDAYS

The following people are celebrating their birthdays this week:

Ande Rasmussen (May 21st)

Please join us in wishing them a VERY happy birthday!

IN RECOGNITION FOR THEIR SERVICE TO OUR CLUB

We'd like to take a moment to recognize and thank the hard working members of our **Hospitality Committee** who helped us before our last meeting (on May 14, 2019).

Myron Burse,
Chris Forrest, Russell Gana,
Nick Hesselsweet and
Carl Noble

Thank you all for your service! If you'd like to assist the Hospitality Committee at any of our weekly luncheons, please contact **Myron Burse** (or Jennifer Olsen).

CONGRATULATIONS (FROM 5/14/19)!



TODAY WE HONOR

John Fox (PHF +2)

Pauline Gubbels (PHF +8)

Debbie Simmons (PHF +2)

PRESIDENT JULIE'S THOUGHT OF THE DAY—FROM 5/14

*“Be CONFIDENT always,
Be COMPETENT often,
Be COMPASSIONATE perpetually.”
~~ Anonymous*



LAST WEEK'S RECAP — CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

President Julie previewed our next speakers/programs: On May 21 we'll hear from Derek Tinker and Bill Hays from Switch Energy Alliance, and on May 28 we'll be joined by Jonathan Coon with 1-800 Contacts.

President Julie thanked our featured newsletter sponsors for the day: **Rick Ravel** (Karavel Shoes) and **Michael Abelson** (The Abelson Group). She closed with a *Thought of the Day*, and adjourned right at 1:00.

ROTARY CLUB OF AUSTIN'S BLOOD DRIVE (ON 5/14/19)



Pete Meeker, Jack Nash, David Palmer, Richard Payton, Peter Pfeiffer, Michael Portman, Andy Swanson and Jon Yates.

We would've had more, but it was a limited window for the truck to stay, and available spots filled up fast! Thanks, everyone! ~~ **Mary Reynolds, Community Service Avenue VP**

Thanks to everyone who donated, or tried to donate, at last Tuesday's Blood Drive — Rotary made a difference! We had 21 members volunteer, and we had an extra 5 of St. David's staff donate, too.

Participating members included: **Kathleen Bay, Harold Benkoski, Todd Coleman, Bill Davies, Ann Marie Ellis, John Fox, Russell Gana, Jim Gdula, Don Ray George, Don Grillo, Tom Howard, Jill Johnson, Mark Johnson,**



RCA GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES EVENING OF DISCUSSION — COMING UP THIS THURSDAY, MAY 23RD



The Rotary Club of Austin - Global Perspectives Committee invites you to join us for an evening of discussion.

Southeast Asia Business Perspectives

Our speaker is Harlow G. Russell, a senior executive with experience in a full range of disciplines. Harlow has lived and worked in Asia since 1992: 8 years in Indonesia, 14 years in Singapore and 4 years in Thailand and Vietnam. He understands cross-cultural challenges when marketing and selling between countries.

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Networking: 6:30 pm
Dinner/Presentation: 7:00 pm

Napa Flats Wood-Fired Kitchen
8300 N FM 620, BLDG M, STE 100, Austin, TX 78726

Space is limited (24 seats)
RSVP to Chad Thompson cthompson@pegplanning.com



PHOTOS FROM LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM ON MAY 14TH



ST. DAVID'S PARKING GARAGE MESSAGE/INSTRUCTIONS



Premier Parking/St. David's garage manager, Angel, will provide 50 parking spaces in St. David's garage every Tuesday for our use, although they may or may not be roped off for us. Once those spaces are taken and there are no other parking spaces members should either try to find parking on the surface lot on the church property, if there are any spaces available, **OR**..

Drive over to Premier's Trinity surface lot which is on Trinity and 8th, catty-corner to St. David's parking garage. (It's the corner lot that is steeply slanted — *see map image to the left*.) You may also start there, if you'd like. If you park in this surface lot, go to the kiosk (on the lot) and punch in the numbers, **1905**. You will **not** be charged for parking in either the small, surface lot on the church campus nor this

Trinity surface parking lot.

Please continue to use your laminated barcode to enter the parking garage and **don't punch the button for a paper ticket**. Our code is read by the parking system and an accurate count of members will be reported. If you have a guest coming, they *will* take a paper ticket and then they will need to ask the Hospitality Team, when they check in, for a one-time use QR code to exit the garage. If any of your guests park in Premier's Trinity surface lot then they will need to punch in the numbers **1905** at the kiosk, too.

Club leaders continue to try to identify alternative parking solutions for us and welcome any suggestions from members.

AUSTIN CENTRE—OVERFLOW PARKING REMINDER

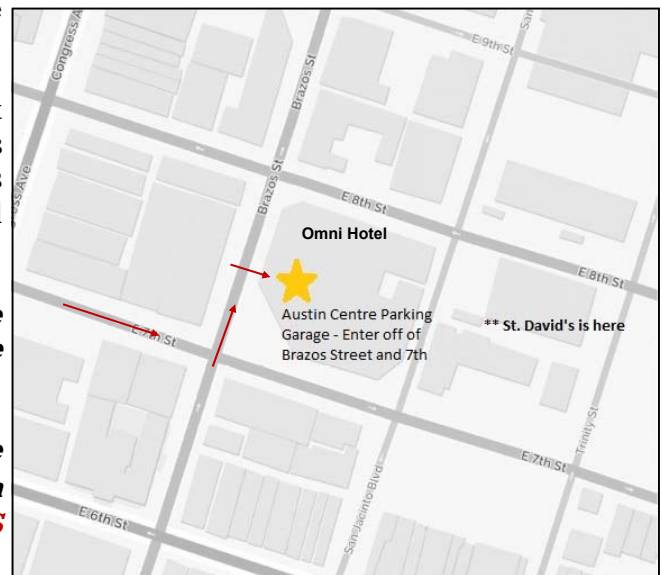
Don't forget that we still have an agreement with Austin Centre (the building right across San Jacinto from the Church...think the Omni, but not — *see map image to the bottom right*) where they will try to provide overflow parking in their garage on (most) Tuesdays during our weekly lunches!

This garage is MUCH more expensive for us than when you park in St. David's garage (or in the Trinity Surface Lot), however, since they charge us in 20 minute increments (not a flat rate).

If you park in the Austin Centre garage, you **MUST** request a validation ticket from one of the Hospitality members when you check in at the meeting! Please note that this is **ONLY AVAILABLE** from 11:00-2:00 each Tuesday and is unavailable on any other day of the week.

To enter the Austin Centre parking garage, come down 7th Street and turn left onto Brazos. The parking garage entrance is on the right.

******If you park there, don't forget to ask the Hospitality Team for a complimentary validation voucher/ticket! YOUR LAMINATED BARCODES WON'T WORK IN THIS GARAGE!******



SUPPORTERS OF THE ROTARY REMINDER (PAGE 1)



Rick Ravel
President, Certified Pedorthist
512-406-5117
rickr@karavelshoes.com

Central Austin: 5501 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78756 **512.459.7603**
Round Rock: 201 University Oaks Blvd. #790, Round Rock, TX 78665 **512.610.3990**



THE ABELSON GROUP
Hiring & Performance Solutions for Staff, Teams & Leaders

Give yourself and your organization an edge with our specialized HR services.

Assessments, Training & Consulting for:

- ▲ Hiring, Team Building & Leadership Solutions & Performance
- ▲ Team Development & Consulting
- ▲ Keynotes & Other Speeches On Managing & Leadership

Michael Abelson,
MA, MBA, PhD

To enroll in our free eletter or for services contact Dr. A directly or email us at
succeed@abelson.net

979.696.2222
www.abelson.net

KIDD ROOFING
Since 1982

Commercial & Residential Roofing Professionals

*All Roofing Types - Metal, Shingles, Tile, Modified, TPO, PVC,
Custom Sheet Metal Fabrication, Gutters, Downspouts*

Corey Wilson
President

1212 East Anderson Lane, #200 Austin, Dallas, San Antonio
Austin, Texas 78752 Main (512) 671-7791
www.kiddroof.com cwilson@kiddroof.com

IT Support For Your Business!

LET US BE YOUR IT DEPARTMENT

- Managed IT Services
- Private Cloud Hosted Services
- IT Project Services
- Backup & Disaster Recovery
- Virtualization Solutions
- Telecom & Voice over IP



Texas Systems Group
512.249.2000 | txsg.com

David Doran
Direct: 512.600.6211
David.Doran@txsg.com



www.RiderCG.com

Scott Rider
Chairman & CEO
Scott@RiderCG.com
(c) 214.801.5823

Rider Construction Group, LLC.
912 S. Hwy 183, #210
Austin, Texas 78741
(a) 512.330.4602

ROTARY CLUB OF AUSTIN: 301 E. 8TH STREET, AUSTIN, TX 78701

PHONE: (512) 462-1333 • WWW.ROTARY-AUSTIN.ORG • E-MAIL: OFFICE@ROTARY-AUSTIN.ORG

SUPPORTERS OF THE *ROTARY REMINDER* (PAGE 2)

**GREATER TEXAS
WATER COMPANY**



WE PURIFY ANY KIND OF WATER

Try an alternative to the high cost of bottled water with steam distillation.

Steam Distillation Fountains:

- Save you money on water
- Replace bulky bottled water coolers
- Fit perfectly in your home or office

Call for a free trial!

472.9393 | www.greatertexaswater.com



Mike O'Krent

Founder, LifeStories Alive, LLC

mokrent@lifestoriesalive.com

PO Box 9322, Austin, TX 78766

www.lifestoriesalive.com

JOE KOEN & SON JEWELERS

Since 1883

AUSTIN'S OLDEST AND FINEST JEWELER
TREATING YOU LIKE FAMILY SINCE 1883

BILL KOEN, III
Graduate Gemologist

611 Congress Ave.
Austin, Texas 78701

www.JoeKoenJewelers.com

Phone: 512-478-2595

Fax: 512-472-6903

Bill@JoeKoenJewelers.com



Mark D. Johnson
Senior Vice President
Commercial Lending

**International
Bank of
Commerce**

500 W. 5th Street, Suite 100
Austin, Texas 78701 (512) 397-4505 Cell: (512) 698-3527
Fax: (512) 473-2485 Email: markjohnson@ibc.com



CENTRIC
COMMERCIAL

Commercial Real Estate Leasing and Sales

Andrew Swanson
swanson@centric-re.com
512-777-9916

CORFAC
International

ROTARY CLUB OF AUSTIN: 301 E. 8TH STREET, AUSTIN, TX 78701

PHONE: (512) 462-1333 • WWW.ROTARY-AUSTIN.ORG • E-MAIL: OFFICE@ROTARY-AUSTIN.ORG