



# ROTARY REMINDER

## ROTARY CLUB OF AUSTIN



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

VOLUME 56, ISSUE 34

MARCH 26, 2019

### PRESIDENT

Julia Benkoski

### PRESIDENT ELECT

Bill Davies

### PAST PRESIDENT

Sara Pantin

### VICE PRESIDENTS

Club Service—Nadir Abdeladim

Community Service—Mary Reynolds

Global Service—Girish Altekar

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

4/2—Chris Almendariz, President of the Round Rock Express (Baseball)

4/9—Dr. David Altounian, Interim Dean, Bill Munday School of Business at St. Edward's Univ.

4/16—Heidi Anderson, The (Austin) Trail Foundation (TTF)

### MEETINGS AND EVENTS

3/28—RCA North Breakfast Cluster Mtg., Waterloo Ice House (on Burnet Road), 7:00 a.m.

3/29—Wine Party hosted by Diane & Zach Ventresca — see flyer on page 8 for more details!

4/10—Downtown Austin Breakfast Cluster Mtg., 7:00 a.m.

See the Social Circle Update (on page 3) for additional dates

## This Week's Program



### CLAIRE ENGLAND CENTRAL TEXAS ANGEL NETWORK (CTAN)

Claire England is Executive Director of Central Texas Angel Network (CTAN), one of the largest, most active early-stage investing groups in the U.S. with \$100M invested in 170+ companies.

She is a graduate of Kauffman Fellows, a prestigious Silicon Valley-based, two-year executive education program for venture capital and innovation leadership. Prior to CTAN, Claire built local and international startup ecosystem strategy for SXSW Interactive, Tech Ranch, and St. Edward's University. She was also Executive Director of RISE: Relationship & Information Series for Entrepreneurs. Under her leadership, RISE became a Forbes "Must-Attend 2013 Conference for Entrepreneurs."

Claire is a frequent speaker, moderator, and judge at national and international innovation events. She volunteers as an advisor at startup accelerators, Austin Chamber's Capital Committee, and St. Edward's University's Business School Board of Advisors.

In 2018, she received a Kauffman Fellows Leadership Award. She was also a 2013 Finalist for *Austin Business Journal's* Profiles in Power Award.

## RECAP FROM MARCH 5TH'S PROGRAM

**Seth Hopkins — Executive Director, Booth Western Art Museum**

**March 5, 2019**

**Reported by Russell Gallahan**

**President Julie** called our meeting to order. **Jim Gdula** led the pledges and **Sylvia Holmes** gave our invocation of the day. **Jack Lubben** led us in saying the *Four Way Test*. **Chris Forrest** greeted each member and guest as they arrived, and **David Palmer** introduced our guests and visitors.

**Joseph Hang** shared a two-minute *Membership Minute* with us, then **Diane Ventresca** came to the podium to invite us all to the Wine Tasting she and Zach are hosting at the end of the month on Friday, March 29th. There isn't a specific theme — just bring a bottle of your favorite wine and tell us why it's your favorite!

**Jon Yates** asked for volunteers to lead the pledges, invocation and Membership Minute at our lunch meetings in April and May; and **Mary Reynolds** reminded us about the Storybook Heroes Luncheon to benefit BookSpring on April 26.

**Caroline Valentine** gave a *Global Awareness Update* and introduced us to their newly added effort, "Global Perspectives". If anyone is interested in learning more about Global Services, you're urged to join one of their committees.

**President Julie** exchanged Club banners with a visiting Rotarian couple from Dover, UK, then she shared the following announcements:

- Don't forget to check-in on Meetup.com and Facebook.
- Also don't forget that we will not be meeting at St. David's on March 12 or March 19<sup>th</sup>. Instead, we will have our Semi-Annual Cluster Meetings on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Today is the last day to sign up!
- The Scholarship Committee will meet today after lunch down in the Vestry Conference Room.
- District Governor Jerry Chapman is asking all Rotarians to join him and "Be The Inspiration" at the Conference of Clubs on May 3-5, 2019, at the historic Menger Hotel in San Antonio. If anyone is would like to contribute a bottle of wine or other item for the silent auction to be held at the conference please let her know.

**Josue Limon** led today's very busy *Thank Goodness Basket*. **Joseph Hang** was first up and told us how he and his wife sponsored a student scholarship at his church in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. **Vlad Bahrencu** wore his "Best Dad Award" necktie drawn by his daughter. **Barry Curlee** urged members to take a picture at today's meeting and post it on social media to build awareness about Rotary and our Club. **Rick Ravel** congratulated the Texas Longhorns men's swimming and diving teams for 40 consecutive years of conference titles after winning the Big 12 Championship last week. He also congratulated the women's team since they won the Big 12 Championship for the seventh consecutive time. Hook'em! **Mark Kapner** spoke about the success of the recent Career Day at Pecan Springs and urged the club to do it more often and for more members to participate. **Sylvia Holmes** told us about her father's upcoming prostate cancer treatment in May. **Ann Marie Ellis** spoke about the phenomenal participation by the Club in Rise Against Hunger. We provided 116 volunteers for the event! **Mary Reynolds** shared some of the accomplishments of long-time member **Dr. Rod Simonsen** who passed away recently. These included that he started a local rehabilitation hospital while raising 7 kids with his wife Helga. He will be greatly missed! "Don't let life pass you by," was one of his mottos. *Story continues on page 5.*

## SOCIAL CIRCLE UPDATE

***Thursday, March 28—RCA North Breakfast Cluster Meeting  
at Waterloo Ice House (on Burnet Road) at 7:00 a.m.***

***\*\*\*SAVE THE DATE!!! – Friday, March 29 – SAVE THE DATE!!!\*\*\****

***Wine Tasting Party hosted by Diane and Zach Ventresca  
at their home (2125 Peoria Drive, Leander) at 6:30 p.m.***

***See flyer on page 8 for more information  
and **be sure to RSVP with Diane!*****

***Wednesday, April 10—Downtown Austin Breakfast Cluster Meeting  
at Magnolia Café (on Lake Austin Boulevard) at 7:00 a.m.***

***\*\*\*DATE CHANGE\*\*\* Tuesday, April 16 \*\*\*DATE CHANGE\*\*\****

***EarlyAct FirstKnight (EAFK) Knighting Ceremonies  
at Pecan Springs Elementary (3100 Rogge Lane) at 8:15 a.m.***

***and***

***at Dawson Elementary (3001 S. 1st) at 1:30 p.m.***

***Thursday, April 18—RCA MasterMind Group Meeting  
at Mimi's Café (Arbor Walk) at 7:00 a.m.***

## 2019-2022 AUSTIN ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTION COMING UP THIS TUESDAY, MARCH 26TH!

The election for the Austin Rotary Club Foundation Board of Trustees (serving a three-year term from July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2022) will be held during our regular meeting THIS Tuesday, March 26th!

The following five members will be on the election ballot (Club members will elect three):

**Harold Benkoski, Julie Benkoski, Vicky Lindsey  
Jack Nash and Jack Wolfe**

***\*\*\*Remember, you MUST be present to vote (no proxy voting permitted)\*\*\****

**ROTARY BIRTHDAYS**

*The following people are celebrating their birthdays this week:*

*Todd Coleman (March 25th)*

*Vera Keric (March 29th)*

*Please join us in wishing them a VERY happy birthday!*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

The **Rotary Club of Austin** and the **Austin Rotary Club Foundation** would like to thank the following Rotarians, who were recognized at our ARCF Celebration Dinner held earlier this month, for their generous financial support of our Foundation and/or our Club projects during this year’s 2018-2019 Annual Ask Giving Campaign:

- |                                  |                                   |                                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Nadir Abdeladim-ARCF Fellow      | David Doran-ARCF Fellow +1        | Carl Noble-ARCF Fellow +2       |
| Girish Altekar-ARCF Fellow       | Jeff Evins-ARCF Fellow            | David Palmer-ARCF Fellow +1     |
| Tom Anderson-ARCF Fellow +1      | Rich Fikani-ARCF Fellow +1        | Sara Pantin-ARCF Fellow +1      |
| Jerry Ballard-ARCF Fellow        | Chris Forrest-ARCF Fellow         | <b>Rick Ravel-Champion</b>      |
| <b>Meade Bauer-Champion</b>      | <b>John Fox-Champion</b>          | <b>Ronney Reynolds-Champion</b> |
| Jeff Blackwelder-ARCF Fellow     | Russell Gallahan-ARCF Fellow      | Lois Ann Stanton-ARCF Fellow +1 |
| Bobby Brown-ARCF Fellow          | <b>Don Ray George-Champion +3</b> | Bill Sullivan-ARCF Fellow       |
| Don Busby-ARCF Fellow            | Ann Graham-ARCF Fellow +2         | Powell Thompson-ARCF Fellow     |
| <b>Ernest Butler-Major Donor</b> | Pauline Gubbels-ARCF Fellow +3    | Pat Von Dohlen-ARCF Fellow +2   |
| Mike Capps-ARCF Fellow +1        | Scott Hendler-ARCF Fellow         | Tim Von Dohlen-ARCF Fellow +1   |
| Margaret Curtis-ARCF Fellow +1   | <b>Michele Heyman-Champion +3</b> | Jon Yates-ARCF Fellow           |
| Bill Davies-ARCF Fellow          | Bill Koen-ARCF Fellow             |                                 |

\*\*\***MAJOR DONORS**—\$10,000 OR MORE; **CHAMPIONS**—\$5,000 OR MORE; and **ARCF FELLOWS**—\$1,000 OR MORE. Recognition levels are for donations received during this year’s Annual Ask campaign and is for cumulative donations since July, 2011. Prior President’s Council recipients are sincerely appreciated but are not listed here, although they were included in the evening’s programs.\*\*\*

## 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 March 5, 2019).

# *Myron Burse, Bill Davies, Chris Forrest, Pauline Gubbels and David Palmer*

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).

## MEMORIAL DONATIONS RECEIVED

The **Austin Rotary Club Foundation (ARCF)** sincerely appreciates the receipt of memorial donations from **Lee and Anne Yeakel** in honor of **Nadir Abdeladim** and **Rod Simonsen**.

## MARCH 5TH PROGRAM RECAP (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

**Ronney Reynolds** congratulated **Bruce Golden** on his birthday and recorded all of us singing "Happy Birthday" to send to him as he recovers from illness at home. He also reminded us that Texas Independence Day was on March 2. Finally, **President Julie** reminded us that we are half way towards our membership goals for the year and thanked Board members and Committee chairs for their efforts to reach our objectives.

**Tarby Bryant** introduced his friend and today's speaker, **Seth Hopkins**, Executive Director at Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville, GA.

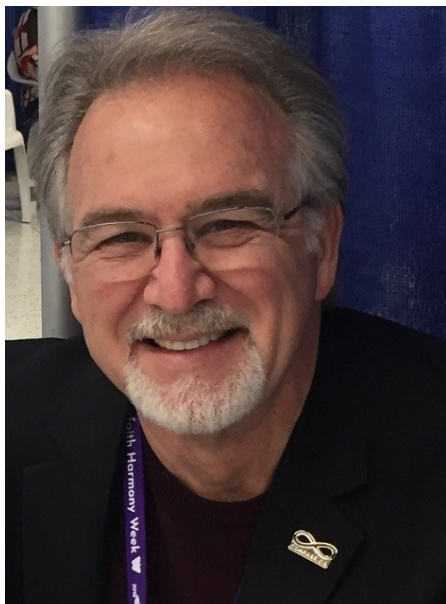
Seth spoke about the vast collection of western art on display in the 120,000 square foot facility and shared many images from art exhibits on display. Much of it is available for sale, and works from many Austin/Texas artists are represented in the collection.

He discussed an upcoming expansion of the facility to include a large collectable car exhibit; and he spoke at length about Andy Warhol's interest in western art and his (Andy's) affinity for cowboy boots.

He recommended the Insight Gallery in Fredericksburg as another, closer art museum for those with an interest in western art.

At our next meeting, on March 26th, we'll be joined by **Claire England** who is the Executive Director for Central Texas Angel Network (CTAN). **President Julie** closed the meeting by highlighting newsletter advertisement sponsors **Corey Wilson** (Kidd Roofing) and **David Doran** (Texas Systems Group).

## NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION



### CLAY BOYKIN

*Sponsor is Tom Howard*

The world needs more spiritual men, and increasing mindfulness and raising consciousness among men is Clay Boykin's calling. Clay recently left the business world and has dedicated his next twenty years in service to creating circles of men around the world who gather, physically and virtually, to engage in contemplative conversations on the over-arching themes of mindfulness, compassion, the Golden Rule and male spirituality.

Using his 38 years in operations, marketing/business development and as an organizational change agent, and with his deeply held principles of servant leadership, Clay founded the Men's Fellowship Network in 2012. Clay's recently published book, *Circles of Men*, examines how men come together in a contemplative setting to learn about vulnerability, empathy, paradox, cultivate trust with other men, explore the many religious and spiritual traditions, and learn from one another's life journey.

Clay is the volunteer Assistant Director of Compassionate Austin and is collaborating with Karen Armstrong's parent organization, Charter for Compassion to develop a global initiative for men seeking to support one another in their spiritual growth. Clay also works with Gender Equity & Reconciliation International to create environments for deep healing of the wounds between men and women.

Clay's book, *Circles of Men*, can be found through Amazon, Book People and Barnes and Noble. Clay always looks forward to opportunities where he can help individuals and organizations through speaking engagements, workshops and simply helping good people connect.

## NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION

### BOB LeBLANC

*Sponsor is Tarby Bryant*

Bob LeBlanc, LSU alumni – Chemical/Mechanical/Industrial Engineering, has been actively engaged in the I.T. industry for over 45 years with extensive experience in both the business and technology sides of the industry.

Over the course of his career, his focus has primarily been involved in the strategic application of Information Technology in Healthcare, Insurance, Finance, Energy and Cyber Security economic sectors.

He has demonstrated success in companies ranging in size from large healthcare solution providers to Fortune 500 engineering firms, Fortune 500 computer technology and consulting firms and he has held a variety of positions in software engineering, sales, project management, engineering management, consulting, business owner and Sr. Vice-President of a publicly traded technology company. He has received numerous performance awards and also holds 4 active U.S. patents plus 2 additional patents pending award and 8 additional patents pending final review, all in cryptography and cyber security.



Bob currently owns and operates InTrilogy, a privately held company that provides Cybersecurity Advisory Board (CAB) services to the Executive Teams of small to medium size client companies and works with that executive team and their designated internal staff in order that their companies can successfully pass a HIPAA, NIST SP 800-171, SECURETexas, GDPR or NAIC Data Security Model Law assessment and/or audit.  
*Story continues on page 7.*

## NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTION



### FRANCIS NEIL “NICK” HESSELSWEET

*Sponsor is Barry Curlee*

My first love is for the Lord. Through my adult life experiences, my trust in God has deepened. Although I have always enjoyed serving in my church and studying the scriptures, with my recent retirement, I seek opportunities for additional service to others. Rotary offers a generous avenue to serve.

My family is my second love. My wife, Jan, and I were both widowed in our “middle” years. We feel very fortunate to have found each other, and we recently we celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Together we have four children and seven grandchildren who reside in California, Indiana, Michigan and Connecticut. We visit each of them several times each year, and between visits we gratefully utilize FaceTime and long phone conversations to keep up on their news.

My life began in New Era, Michigan, a small town close to Lake Michigan. Having studied chemistry in college my first career was working in a lab for a company that produced electricity for the western half of Michigan.

Quickly, the routine of the work became very boring; so, I reconsidered my career options. Sales seemed a possibility because I frequently won prizes for the greatest sales in fund raisers for school and Boy Scouts. My new career began as a sales position with a national company selling specialty chemicals to industry and municipalities. It was a good fit, and I was fortunate to advance, eventually managing the company with a national sales force of 275 persons and reporting to the absentee owner.

The travel was overwhelming during these years as I trained managers and visited sales teams across the U.S. Therefore, I decided to utilize my experience to open my own business with a similar business model but only selling to industrial and janitorial distributors in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. My company also manufactured liquid and powdered chemicals. After several years I sold this company.

Through these two enterprises, I realized that I preferred my efforts in sales, training, and employee motivation so I opened a manufacturer’s representative agency where these talents would be a utilized. My team focused on representing providers of sanitary supply equipment, products and processes to distributors and volume end-users in a five-state area. I operated this business for 26 years and turned it over to the employees when one of the manufacturers we represented convinced me to become their VP of Sales. After five years of developing markets across the U.S. for microfiber cleaning systems, I retired October 2017.

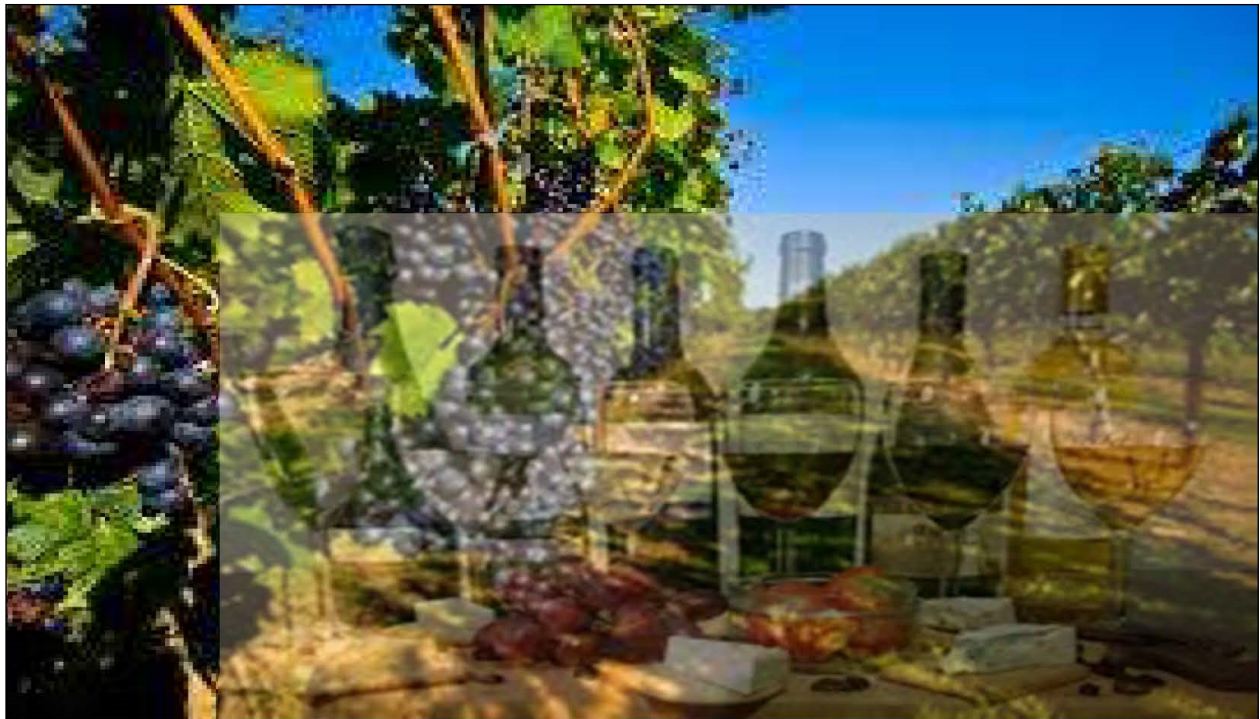
It was a brief retirement, as by early 2018 I had offers to generate sales for several of my Central Texas distributors, offers to provide training seminars on cleaning products and processes, and an offer to open the Texas market for a company selling PVC decking for decks and docks. I now enjoy flexible, part-time work conducting an occasional seminar and developing the Texas market selling decking. As decking is a new product for me it has become my primary focus.

Without much advance planning, I now have a satisfying “retirement.” My part-time work is balanced with new opportunities to volunteer in the community, to pursue special interests, and to enjoy excursions with Jan and family. I have surprised myself to find such diversity and enjoyment after a satisfying business career.

## BOB LE BLANC’S INTRODUCTION (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

InTrilogy also provides client organizations with fractional, contract or permanent placement Cybersecurity and Software Engineering staff who are experts in their areas of specialization to help those companies build and manage properly secured Information Technology based products and services that drive revenue, monetize the company’s data and optimize their customer’s experiences.

## WINE TASTING PARTY HOSTED BY DIANE & ZACH VENTRESCA COMING UP ON FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH



### Pick Your Favorite Wine

**(any wine!)**

and bring it to *Diane and Zach Ventresca's* house at

**6:30 PM Friday March 29<sup>th</sup>**

*RSVP:*

Preferred://[evite.me/mCEtebxZuT](https://evite.me/mCEtebxZuT)

or: [diane.ventresca@gmail.com](mailto:diane.ventresca@gmail.com)

**It's a Rotary Wine Party!**

*Join your friends at*

2125 Peoria Drive

Leander, TX

Gate Code: 4565

Phone: 512-550-4083

There will be appetizers to pair.



# PHOTOS FROM THE RISE AGAINST HUNGER SERVICE EVENT ON FEBRUARY 23RD





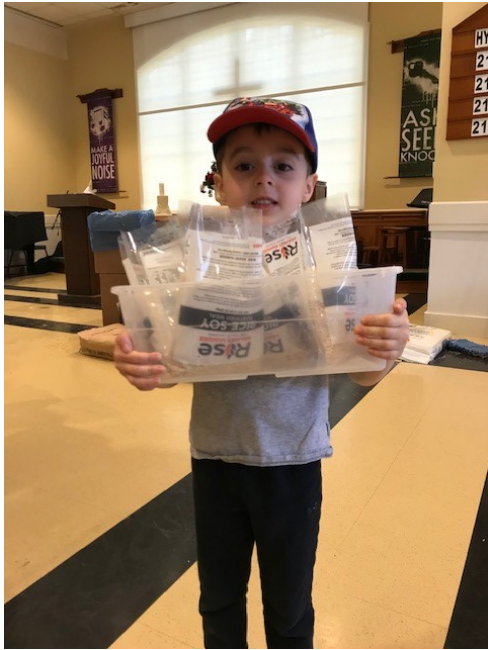
# MORE PHOTOS FROM THE RISE AGAINST HUNGER SERVICE EVENT ON FEBRUARY 23RD



# EVEN MORE PHOTOS FROM THE RISE AGAINST HUNGER SERVICE EVENT ON FEBRUARY 23RD



# FINAL PHOTOS FROM THE RISE AGAINST HUNGER SERVICE EVENT ON FEBRUARY 23RD



# PHOTOS FROM THE ARCF CELEBRATION DINNER (ON 3/7/19)



**PHOTOS FROM OUR PROGRAM ON MARCH 5TH**



## ST. DAVID'S PARKING GARAGE MESSAGE/INSTRUCTIONS

*A message from President Julie about parking:* Premier Parking/St. David's garage manager, Angel, will provide 50 parking spaces in the garage every Tuesday for our use. 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, which may or may not have 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 very steep.) You may also start there, if you'd like. If you park there, go to the kiosk on that 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 the 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.

I am deeply sorry for the frustration that many of you have felt, and we all continue to feel, due to the lack of sufficient parking. I'm open to any suggestions for alternative parking arrangements and hope we can focus on our weekly fellowship and continue to positively change our community and the world.

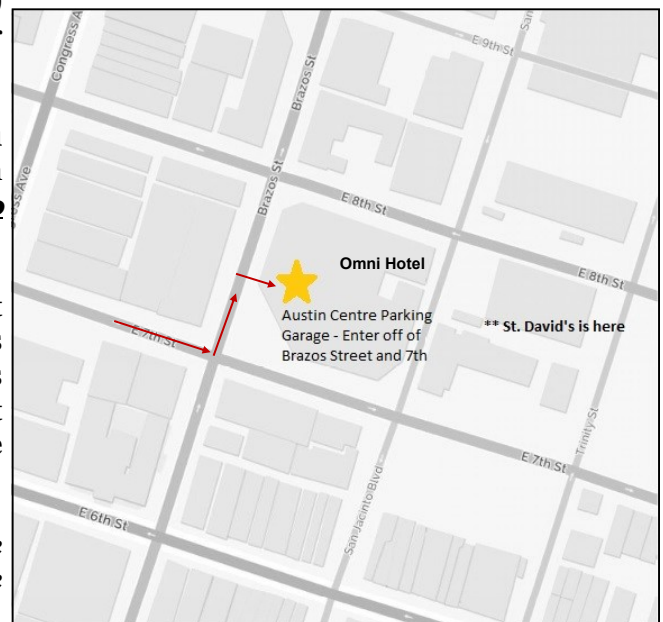
## AUSTIN CENTRE—OVERFLOW PARKING REMINDER

As a reminder — 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*) 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, however, since they charge us in 20 minute increments (not a flat rate). **So please try to park at St. David's first.**

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 for a few hours each Tuesday (you can't park your car there all day for free nor can you park there for free on any other day of the week).

***To enter the Austin Centre parking garage, come down 7<sup>th</sup> 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

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**Central Austin:** 5501 Burnet Road, Austin, TX 78756 512.459.7603  
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**SUPPORTERS OF THE ROTARY REMINDER (PAGE 2)**

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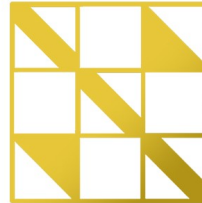
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