

THE FOREIGN SERVICE GROUP

- Central Texas –

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Chez Zee Restaurant
5406 Balcones Drive, Austin
11:20 a.m.; Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Professor H. Richard Sindelar, III
Assistant Professor of International Studies
University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX

“Immigration: The Impossible Debate”

We hear and read a lot from members of Congress about immigration policy, usually directed at their big financial supporters and bloc voting supporters. This is a rare and unique opportunity to hear from an FSO with a long history of issuing visas, managing the visa-issuing process, and studying the visa-issuing system. The outcome of a successful immigration application is the issuing of a visa. Few people have acquired Richard Sindelar's breadth of experience on this far-reaching process or have devoted the time and study he has to understanding all aspects of it.

August Menu:

Minestrone Soup

Choice of:

New Orleans Pecan Chicken (Crunchy pecan breaded chicken breast with rice pilaf and sautéed vegetables)

OR

Zilker Clubhouse Sandwich (Baked ham, smoked turkey, bacon, Swiss cheese, crisp leaf lettuce, tomato and onion on grilled sourdough bread)

Vegetarian option:

Sarah's Veggie Platter (A bed of sautéed vegetables topped with rice pilaf and black beans with fresh tomatoes and green onions, served with roasted salsa and herbed crostini)

Dessert: Lemon Rosemary and Carrot Cake bites
Coffee, Iced Tea, Sodas

RSVP: Please confirm your attendance and menu choice by noon on Wednesday, August 7

- By mail to TFSG, P.O. Box 50246, Austin, TX 78763-0246 or

- By e-mail to jmclean@computermoms.com or

- By phone to John at 512.797.0538

Via mail with a check is our preferred method. In all cases, please include a phone number so we can confirm receipt of your reservation. All RSVPs will be confirmed. If you do not get a confirmation, please contact us.

Lunch begins at noon. Members \$24. Guests of members \$30. No new reservations after 12 noon on Wednesday, August 7. No-shows or cancellations after this date will be billed for their lunch. Checks may be made out to TFSG and mailed to P.O. Box 50246, Austin, TX 78763-0246. Checks mailed in advance are greatly appreciated.

Memberships are \$30 for three years or \$12 per year.

About the Speaker



H. Richard Sindelar, III is Assistant Professor of International Studies at the University of St. Thomas' Center for International Studies, with a focus on American Foreign Policy, International Security, International Law, and Middle East Studies.

Prof. Sindelar is also responsible for directing the Center's new partnership with the American Foreign Service Association (AFSA)

in Washington, DC. This new public initiative focuses on the art of diplomacy. Never before have diplomacy and diplomatic skills been as important for the success of American foreign relations and international business. The modern global situation offers unparalleled opportunities and great risks for both U.S. foreign policy, and private international commerce and finance world-wide. To meet the need for a new generation of talented diplomats, the Center and AFSA joined forces to develop programs that inspire greater student and public interest in the craft of diplomacy, and the professional development of young leaders to fill diplomatic roles, whether in the public or private sectors. Programs include a new biennial "Distinguished Diplomat Lecture" series and award, a continuing program of Crisis and Issues Briefings, and development of a broad databank of career resources for students.

Prof. Sindelar received his law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center, and served over 22 years as a diplomatic officer with the U.S. State Department Foreign Service; his overseas posts included Tel Aviv (1974), Jerusalem as Vice Consul and Economic/Commercial officer (1974-76), Montreal (1988-91) where his responsibilities included promoting investment in the U.S. under the then-Free Trade Agreement (FTA), and Monterrey, Mexico (1994-1995), where he served as Deputy U.S. Consul General and Chief of Consular Operations for a five-state region of north-central Mexico. He also served as liaison officer at the U.S. Sinai Field Mission (1978-1979), which included peacekeeping duties both in Cairo and Tel Aviv, and served a temporary duty tour in Havana, Cuba (1995).

In Washington, he served three tours in the Department of State's Bureau of Intelligence and Research, one as an Intelligence Watch Officer assigned to the Operations Center, and two analyzing Middle East political/economic events, the last tour (1991-1994) as Deputy Director of Middle East/South Asia Analysis. He also served two Washington tours in the Consular Affairs Bureau's Office for Legislation, Regulations, and Advisory Assistance related to visa matters, the latter tour as Division Chief for the Coordination Division responsible for the national visa security check system. He co-edited the book *Crosscurrents in the Gulf* (Sindelar & Peterson, eds., London: Croom-Helm, 1988) during a sabbatical year at the Middle East Institute in Washington, DC, of which he remains a member. As an editor on the staff of the Georgetown Law Journal he wrote the *Right to Counsel*

segment of the Journal's *1983 Criminal Procedure Project*. Mr. Sindelar is admitted to the Bars in the District of Columbia and Texas.

Prior to joining the University of St. Thomas, Prof. Sindelar was a Partner at Jackson Walker LLP, representing and advising a wide variety of multinational corporate clients, including energy and oil industry companies, information technology companies, investment enterprises, the shipping industry, and sports clients regarding employer compliance, export compliance, and global mobility immigration. His expertise includes Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) exemptions from the U.S. Coast Guard, a wide variety of investment visa matters under bilateral treaties, U.S. export compliance, and employer compliance programs, as well as representation of individuals and companies seeking EB-5 immigrant investor status or designation under USCIS's "Regional Center" investor pilot program. He remains a member of the State Bar of Texas' Committee on Laws Related to Immigration and Nationality, and served as a member of the AILA-USCBP Houston Liaison Committee from 2007-2012.

Sindelar has periodically appeared as a TV/radio analyst on international issues on Channel 26 Fox News, Channels 11, 13 and 2, and KTRH Radio. He has written opinion articles on various Middle East, political, and security topics. He enjoys opera and served on the Houston Grand Opera's Board of Trustees.

Directions to Chez Zee Restaurant:

From the West

Drive east on 2222. Turn right at Balcones Drive, then right into the Chez Zee parking lot.

From the North

Drive south on Mopac (Loop 1) and exit at "Northland/2222." Turn right at the 2222 light and move into the left lane. Turn left at the first light, Balcones Drive, then immediately move into the right lane. Chez Zee is the second driveway on the right.

From the East

Drive west on Northland Drive/2222. Just after going under the Mopac overpass, move into the left lane. Turn left at the first light, Balcones Drive, then immediately move into the right lane. Chez Zee is the second driveway on the right.

From the South

Drive north on Mo-Pac (Loop 1). Move right to take the "Northland/2222" exit, staying in the left lane of the exit. Turn left (west) into the middle lane of Northland/2222. Just after going under the Mopac overpass, move into the left lane. Turn left at the first light, Balcones Drive, then immediately move into the right lane. Chez Zee is the second driveway on the right.

There are often hidden parking spaces BEHIND the restaurant. If you do not see an empty spot, turn left in the parking lot to find them.

Other Upcoming 2013 Luncheons:

All TFSG luncheons are on the second Tuesday of even-numbered months.

- October 8 (at Le Cordon Bleu, College of Culinary Arts)

- December 10 and 12 (annual Fun Festival Luncheon, at Marie Callender's)

Announcements:

Sadly, we have just learned that TFSG member Matthew D. Smith, Jr. has died. Matt served as an FSO for 35 years. Before joining the Foreign Service, Matt spent five years first in the U.S. Navy and then in the OSS. In addition to English, he spoke Spanish, German, and Turkish. The full obituary can be found at <http://www.tfsg.org/MDSmithObituary.pdf>. A copy of the full obituary will be on display at our August luncheon.

Pasión Popular, the large and exciting exhibition of Spanish and Latin America Folk Art collected by retired FSO Peter Cecere, is showcased on the cover of the current VIEW, the members magazine of the San Antonio Museum of Art, and praised on pages four and five. This large exhibition is open through August 18 and it is worth a visit. For more information, go to <http://www.samuseum.org>.

We welcome suggestions for speakers, restaurants, and new members. Please tell us something about prospective speakers and members, and please send our website address to potential new members and speakers if you know them.

Please browse through the website regularly yourself. Corrections and additions are always welcome. In particular, we want to keep our EISs (Enhanced Information Sheets) up to date. As new speakers and their subjects are listed, please send your suggestions for EIS information to rmae10@aol.com.

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