

**THE FOREIGN SERVICE GROUP**  
**-- Texas --**  
**[WWW.TFSG.ORG](http://WWW.TFSG.ORG)**

**December 2017 Luncheon Meeting**

Mimi's Café

10515 N. Mopac Expy Northbound, #O, Austin, TX 78758

**11:30 a.m.; Tuesday, December 12, 2017**

**Ninth Annual Members-Only Fun Festival Luncheon**

**December Menu**

Iced or hot tea, coffee, soft drinks, juices, hot chocolate, lemonade

Starter: Choice of (A) petite spinach artichoke dip or (B) house salad

Entrée: Choice of

(C) – Tuscan Chicken (grilled chicken served over mashed potatoes with grilled vegetables

or

(D) – French Pot Roast (pot roast with sautéed carrots, mushrooms, and pearl onion served over mashed potatoes in a red wine shallot sauce)

or

(E) – Jambalaya (shrimp, chicken, and andouille sausage with peppers and onions in a French Basque region-inspired tomato sauce. Served over rice.)

or

(F) Quiche Florentine (vegetarian)

Dessert: Crème brulée cheesecake

RSVP: Please confirm your attendance and menu choices by Wednesday, December 6.

- By mail to TFSG, P.O. Box 50246, Austin, TX 78763-0246, or
- By e-mail to Joe McLean at [TFSG.Texas@gmail.com](mailto:TFSG.Texas@gmail.com), or
- By phone to 512-345-6878 or 512-797-0538

Lunch begins at noon. Members \$24. No new reservations after Wednesday, December 6. No-shows or cancellations after this date will be billed for their lunch.

While the December luncheon is "members only," TFSG members who are hosting seasonal visitors from outside of Texas are welcome to bring their visitors to the December luncheon.

Driving directions to Mimi's Café are attached.

Checks made out to TFSG and mailed in advance is our preferred payment method (P.O. Box 50246, Austin, TX 78763-0246). Please include: menu choices, your name, and a phone number or email address so we can confirm your reservation. All reservations are confirmed, so if you do not get a confirmation, please contact us.

Memberships are \$30 per person for three years or \$12 per person per year. Three-year memberships for persons who live more than 50 miles from Austin or are over 90 years of age are \$20 for one person and a spouse/partner/friend living at the same address. Memberships make excellent gifts for people who have spent years overseas and their family members.

To check if your dues are up-to-date, email Joe McLean at [jmclean@computermoms.com](mailto:jmclean@computermoms.com)

### **Information of Interest**

GlobalAustin holiday party; Tuesday, December 12

TFSG members are invited to attend Global Austin's holiday party on Tuesday, December 12, from 5-8 p.m. at Ten Thousand Villages, 4803 Burnet Road in Austin. Free parking in the lot behind the building. Appetizers provided and live music by Maurio Callejas. A portion of all sales that night will benefit GlobalAustin and its programs.

Few Americans know that when an American gets in trouble outside the USA, he/she should call the nearest United States Embassy or Consulate. TFSG has cards to distribute with phone numbers for when in trouble overseas and the S-O-S symbol for use everywhere.

Austin is home to several groups who bring in experts on various aspects of national and international affairs, and some of their upcoming major speakers/events are listed on their websites. Please share this list with your friends.

Clements Center events (University of Texas at Austin)

<https://www.clementscenter.org/>

Strauss Center events (University of Texas at Austin)

<https://www.strausscenter.org/>

Kozmetsky Center events (St. Edward's University)

<https://www.stedwards.edu/kozmetzky-center>

LBJ Presidential Library events

<http://www.lbjlibrary.org/events/all>

GlobalAustin events

[www.globalaustin.org/events](http://www.globalaustin.org/events)

## **TFSG Information**

At the Fun Festival Luncheon, we hope to have lots of door prizes. Some will contain great ideas for you to hint to friends who might not know what to send to you or to other good people. Prizes will include six Lotto tickets. There will also be a handful of our travel cards at each place, for you to give to friends.

Luncheons are on the second Tuesday of even-numbered months except August. The December luncheon is the annual members-only Fun Festival Luncheon. The next luncheon is on February 13, 2018.

Members are encouraged to invite guests to any of our first four luncheons of the year. There are always door prizes such as chocolates, coupons for free meals, lottery tickets, and prizes tied to special days such as Valentine's Day.

Our group depends on great volunteers. Please talk to Doris, Joe, Jerry, or John if you have ideas for our group and/or would like to volunteer. We need members who can arrive early to help us set up, others who can help us take down, and others who can store our electronics and supplies in between luncheons.

Our speakers send us suggestions for the bibliographies we prepare to accompany their speech. The Foreign Service Journal and Barnes & Noble at the Arboretum in Austin each provide a page. We post the bibliographies on our website, <http://www.tfsg.org/Bibliographies.html>, and mail copies to members with U.S. addresses but without access to email. The website contains all past bibliographies and an interesting "Links" page. We encourage members to share our website with family and friends. The website also lists publications, writings, and speeches by past speakers and present TFSG members. We review the website annually for needed additions or deletions, and suggestions are always welcomed. Send corrections for any page on the website to John at [jsw69intadv@hotmail.com](mailto:jsw69intadv@hotmail.com).

We like to list published books, articles, essays, movies, and other works in the Members section of the Publications page on our website. AFSA likes to publish articles, letters to the editor, and books by TFSG members. AFSA always has one question, "Is the author or subject a TFSG member or a member of a TFSG family?"

If you have spoken at one of our meetings, we would like to list your published works in the Speakers section of our website.

Doris Scott appreciates receiving autobiographies, photos, member updates, and notices of members' activities and deaths. Updates for our Activities and Memorial books are also appreciated. Please limit obituaries and autobiographies to six pages or fewer.

If you have had a change in your street or mailing address, internet address, phone number, or outside-your-home emergency contact, please send this information to Doris Scott at [dscott007@austin.rr.com](mailto:dscott007@austin.rr.com). (Note: We do not share, loan, rent, or sell this information to anyone.)

Some of our members do not have access to the internet. We are not sure we have a complete list of these members. If you know of members who do not use the internet, please give them a copy of this October announcement and tell them we will be happy to mail copies to them in the future. Send their names, phone numbers, and mailing address to Joe.

If you receive State magazine, which is sent only to State staff and retirees, and do not keep back issues, please bring them to our luncheons for others to enjoy. The Foreign Service Journal is sent to AFSA members, but non-AFSA members can subscribe to it or find it on the web at [www.AFSA.org/FSJ](http://www.AFSA.org/FSJ).

Our membership fees are modest and our membership numbers are important. Please talk to your friends who have spent time outside of the USA and invite them to one of our luncheons – and then to join TFSG.

Most of our luncheons cost about \$200 more than the luncheon fees bring in. We do not solicit donations but neither do we refuse them.

TFSG has a 90" diagonal screen for use at our luncheons, and it is also available for rental by other nonprofits for \$40 with a refundable deposit of \$300.

### **TFSG Officers**

Chair: Jerry Mitchell, [mitchelljerryk@yahoo.com](mailto:mitchelljerryk@yahoo.com)

President: John S. Wood, [jsw69intadv@hotmail.com](mailto:jsw69intadv@hotmail.com)

Treasurer: Joe McLean, [jmclean@computermoms.com](mailto:jmclean@computermoms.com)

Editor: Sandy Wilder, [swilder@texas.net](mailto:swilder@texas.net)

Webmaster: Jane Dunham, [janedunham@me.com](mailto:janedunham@me.com)

Transportation Coordinator: vacant

Contact Coordinator: Doris Scott, [dscott007@austin.rr.com](mailto:dscott007@austin.rr.com)