

THE FOREIGN SERVICE GROUP

-- Texas --

WWW.TFSG.ORG

February 2016 Luncheon Meeting

Carrabba's Italian Grill

11590 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759

512-345-8232

Tuesday, February 9; 11:20 a.m.

Brian Smith

Professor of Political Science

Interim Dean of the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences

St. Edward's University, Austin, TX

"American Foreign Policy in the 2016 Presidential Election"

February Menu:

Cup of soup with a small side salad

Fresh bread with an Italian dipping sauce

Iced tea, coffee, soft drinks

Choice of:

A – Linguine in Picchi Pacchiu sauce with crushed tomatoes, garlic, olive oil, and basil

B – Chicken Bryan, grilled, topped with goat cheese, sundried tomatoes, and a basil lemon butter sauce

C – Wood-grilled Tilapia, lightly breaded with olive oil, topped with roasted tomatoes, basil, and balsamic glaze

Dessert: Chef's choice

Reservations:

Please confirm your attendance and menu choice by noon on Wednesday, February 3.

- By mail to TFSG, P.O. Box 50246, Austin, TX 78763-0246, or
- By email to jmclean@computermoms.com, or
- By phone to Karen Jacks at 512-238-1909

Members \$24, guests accompanied by members \$30. AFSA and DACOR members may attend one luncheon, except for the December luncheon, at the member price. Lunch begins at noon. No new reservations after 12 noon on Wednesday, February 3. No-shows or cancellations after this date will be billed for their lunch.

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

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

Directions to Carrabba's are on the last page of this announcement.

About Our Speaker

Brian W. Smith is a Professor of Political Science and Associate Dean of the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. He has a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University with a concentration in American Politics and Government.

An active teacher, Dr. Smith presents a range of courses, including The Presidency, Voting Behavior, Congress, and Political Statistics. He is the recipient of the University's Richard B. Hughes Teaching Excellence Award and was a finalist for the University's Distinguished Teaching Award.

He is a frequent political commentator for KVUE-ABC TV Austin, KTBC-Fox Austin, TWC News Austin, and for NPR nationally and locally. His research interests include third-party voting, American government, Texas politics, and comparative electoral systems.

TFSG Information

Please bring any saleable books you have to our February luncheon for a charity book sale – probably our only book sale in 2016. At our December 2015 Fun Festival Luncheon we held a surprise charity book sale featuring donated, like-new books, and from that event we sent \$160 to Foreign Service charities. A follow-on book sale a few days later netted an additional \$80 for charity.

With the presidential election happening later this year, some of your friends may be wondering what role foreign affairs might play in the election. Why not invite them to join you at this luncheon to find out? They might even want to buy some books at our ridiculously low prices.

Door prizes are won at every meeting: (1) the book "Inside a U.S. Embassy" and two TFSG coffee mugs, (2) a certificate for lunch for two from our host restaurant, and (3) a surprise. We also sell copies of "Inside a U.S. Embassy" and our coffee mugs separately.

A WAE position with the Bureau of Consular Affairs may open up in Austin soon, and an incumbent in the position will be at our February luncheon to answer questions about it.

Our group was founded in July 1994, and this is luncheon #101.

The University of Texas and St. Edward's University are hosting events that may be of interest to our members. Go here for more information:

<http://think.stedwards.edu/kozmetzky/upcoming-2016> and
<https://www.clementscenter.org/events>.

Please click [here](#) for a listing of 2016 events of interest and [here](#) for a special February letter from president John S. Wood.

Upcoming Luncheons:

All TFSG luncheons are on the second Tuesday of even-numbered months, skipping August. Suggestions for restaurants are always welcome.

April 12 – Dr. Thomas Palaima, MacArthur Fellow, "War Stories Told, Untold, and Retold from Troy to Tinian to Fort Campbell"

June 14 – Ambassador Thomas D. Boyatt, past president of AFSA, "American Diplomacy at Risk." (The Association for Diplomatic Studies and Training has called Ambassador Boyatt one of the top 25 United States ambassadors in our history.)

October 11 – Ambassador Robert Hutchings, former Dean of the LBJ School of Public Affairs, "Globalization: An Update"

December 13 – Seventh Annual Fun Festival Luncheon, featuring 30 minutes of the craziest, funniest international video ads from around the world in 2016

TFSG Officers

President, John S. Wood, jsw69intadv@hotmail.com

Vice President, Suzanne Natafji, suzakna@gmail.com

Treasurer, Joe McLean, jmclean@computermoms.com

Editor, Sandy Wilder, swilder@texas.net

Webmaster, Jane Dunham, janedunham@me.com

Transportation Coordinator, Florita Sheppard, sheppard-samario@sbcglobal.net

Contact Coordinators, Doris Scott and Naomi Ritchie; dscott007@austin.rr.com and

jamfrdar@yahoo.com

Past President, Danny Root, roadrunr2@usa.net

Directions to Carrabba's Italian Grill:

Note: Research Blvd. is the Hwy 183 access road. If you approach the restaurant from Jollyville Road, you enter the parking lot from the rear. Or, if you miss that turn, drive straight to Duval, turn right onto Duval and right again onto the Hwy 183 access road, and enter the parking lot from the front. There is plenty of free parking close to the restaurant.

From the Northwest

Drive east on Hwy 183. Exit at Duval, cross Duval, continue on the access road. Turn right into the large parking lot at Outback Steakhouse. Carrabba's is on the left, Outback Steakhouse on the right.

From the North

Drive south on Mopac. Exit at Braker Lane and turn right onto Braker. Drive underneath Hwy 183 and turn right at the next light onto Jollyville Road. Drive about 400 yards past Balcones Woods Drive and turn right at the Carrabba's/Outback Steakhouse sign into the parking lot. The restaurant is about 50 yards ahead on the right.

From the South

Drive north on Mopac or Loop 360, then west on Hwy 183. Exit at Braker Lane and turn left onto Braker. Turn right at the next light onto Jollyville Road. Drive about 400 yards past Balcones Woods Drive and turn right at the Carrabba's/Outback Steakhouse sign into the parking lot. The restaurant is about 50 yards ahead on the right.

From the East

Drive west on Hwy 183. Exit at Braker Lane and turn left onto Braker. Turn right at the next light onto Jollyville Road. Drive about 400 yards past Balcones Woods Drive and turn right at the Carrabba's/Outback Steakhouse sign into the parking lot. The restaurant is about 50 yards ahead on the right.