

THE FOREIGN SERVICE GROUP
-- Texas --
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June 2017 Luncheon Meeting
Mimi's Café
10515 N. Mopac Expy Northbound, #O, Austin, TX 78758
11:30 a.m.; Tuesday, June 13, 2017

Adrian Farrell
Consul General, Consulate General of Ireland, Austin
"Ireland and the Future European Union"

June Menu

Fried zucchini spears with pomodoro sauce
Iced or hot tea, coffee, soft drinks, juices, hot chocolate, lemonade

Choice of:

A – Chicken Chop Salad (Slow-roasted chicken breast, red and green bell peppers, mandarin orange slices, basil, cilantro, chopped cabbage and romaine lettuce tossed in sesame dressing with friend wontons and sesame seeds.)

Or

B – French Dip (Sliced roast beef on a fresh baguette with horseradish cream and a side of au jus. Served with frites.)

Or

C – Hickory-Smoked Ham & Swiss Crêpes (Swiss, thick-cut ham, melted cheese. Served with herb roasted potatoes.)

Or

D – Fire-Grilled Shrimp Skewers with Avocado Mango Salsa (Grilled shrimp skewers topped with fresh avocado and mango salsa. Served over rice and accompanied with a crisp baby green salad tossed with cucumbers, tomatoes, red wine shallot vinaigrette and black pepper croutons.)

Dessert: Croissant Bread Pudding with Caramel Sauce

RSVP: Please confirm your attendance and menu choices by noon on Tuesday, June 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, or
- By phone to 512-345-6878 or 512-797-0538

Lunch begins at noon. Members \$24, guests accompanied by members \$30. No new reservations after 12 noon on Tuesday, June 6. No-shows or cancellations after this date will be billed for their lunch. AFSA and DACOR members are welcome to attend one luncheon per year, except for the December luncheon, at the member price.

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 your 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. The three-year membership price for those who live more than 50 miles from Austin or are over 90 years of age is \$20 for one person and a spouse/partner living at the same address. Memberships make excellent gifts for people who have spent years overseas and their family members.

About Our Speaker

Consul General Adrian Farrell is Ireland's first Consul General to Texas. The new Irish Consulate General was formally opened by Irish Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Enda Kenny T.D. on March 15, 2015. The Consulate works to build stronger political, economic, and cultural links between Ireland and Texas.

Consul General Farrell was born in Dublin, Ireland, and has an 18-year diplomatic career with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland. He previously served on the team that opened Ireland's Embassy in Ankara, Turkey, in 1999. He also served as Press and Information Officer at the Irish Embassy in Berlin, Germany, from 2005-2010. Between postings abroad he worked on the EU policy team in Dublin at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Department of the Taoiseach, including during Ireland's Presidencies of the EU in 2004 and 2013. He was also seconded to the Irish Business and Employers Confederation (Ibec) in 2014.

Mr. Farrell holds a degree in European Studies and a Higher Diploma in Education from the University of Dublin (Trinity College) and a Diploma in International Relations from the Institut d'Études Politiques (IEP) in Strasbourg, France.

2017 Events of Interest

Tuesday, October 3

National Night Out in Texas. The major supporter of this day locally is the Austin Police Department, which promotes the 911 service. TFSG may be able to work with APD to hand out our emergency cards for overseas travel.

Tuesday, October 10

TFSG luncheon. Speaker: Professor Stephen Slick, "The Real Challenges for U.S. Intelligence: Competence, Governance, and Legitimacy"

Tuesday, December 12

TFSG "members only" luncheon, with the funniest TV and cinema advertisements of 2017.

Information of Interest

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

TFSG Information

2017 luncheons are on the second Tuesday of even-numbered months except August: October 10, December 12 (members-only Fun Festival Luncheon).

Members are encouraged to invite guests to any of our first four luncheons of the year. There are always door prizes such as books, coupons for free meals, lottery tickets, chocolates, 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.

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.

Our speakers send us suggestions for the bibliographies we prepare to accompany their speech. 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. Several members share our website with family and friends and we encourage all members to do so. The website also lists publications, writings, and speeches by past speakers and present TFSG members. We review the "Links" page on the website several times per year for needed additions or deletions, and suggestions are always welcomed. Send corrections for any page on the website to John at jsw69intadv@hotmail.com.

If you are a member and have been published or have produced a film, we would like to list your published books, articles, essays, and other works in the Members section of the Publications page on our website. According to the AFSA members-only limited-access community website, our TFSG website is often viewed more than 10 times a day.

If you have spoken to 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' deaths. Updates for our memorial book are also appreciated.

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

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 Officers

Chair: Jerry Mitchell, mitchelljerryk@yahoo.com

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

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