



Patricia A Wallis <patriciaawallis@gmail.com>

---

## TCMA Vital Signs Feb 27, 2022

1 message

---

**TCMA** <patriciaawallis@pb02.ascendbywix.com>  
Reply-To: TCMA <patriciaawallis@gmail.com>  
To: Patricia Wallis <patriciaawallis@gmail.com>

Sun, Feb 27, 2022 at 10:11 AM

Can't see this message? [View in a browser](#)

Travis County



Medical Alliance



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 3 - Joint Installation of TCMS and TCMA Boards at the Oasis

March 23 - Book Group, *The Biggest Bluff* by Maria Konnikova

March 24 - Saint Louise House meal prep

April 2 - Party With A Purpose - Palm Springs Cool!

April 19 - General Meeting at Star Hill Ranch and Grant presentation

April 27 - Book Group, *Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles

April 28-29 - ALLMED in Houston



## Note from TCMA President Jenny Stern

Hello Alliance Friends,

Just a short note this week. Good news - we have finally reached APH Covid Risk Stage 4! And with the CDC's new guidance on Covid-19 prevention, be on the lookout for further updates from the city.

I hope you all have been staying warm these past few days. May we continue to see a reduction in Covid cases throughout the spring.

Jenny

[president@tcmallince.org](mailto:president@tcmallince.org)



# 2022 Party With a Purpose - Palm Springs Cool

After research and deliberation among several Alliance leadership team members, we have decided to move forward with an in-person Party With a Purpose - Palm Springs Cool at Dr. Richard and Inga Ruckman's home on

April 2, 2022. COVID cases and hospitalizations in our community are declining. Austin Public Health has moved the community to stage 4 with the consideration of going to stage 3 if numbers continue to decline. The

Centers for Disease Control have listed Travis County in the "LOW" category. See [COVID-19 by County | CDC](#) for more details about Travis County. (Williamson County is also labeled "LOW.")

The event will be held both indoors and outdoors with intentional efforts to best utilize the Ruckmans' outdoor space. We strongly encourage all guests to be fully vaccinated and boosted. Masks will be available at check in for those partygoers who are at higher risk and those who are simply more comfortable wearing a mask indoors. We will also continue to monitor Travis County community levels and share appropriate guidelines.

As a medical family, we care for one another. We also greatly miss socializing and supporting one another in person. We hope this information will help you make an educated decision regarding your attendance at this year's

Party With a Purpose.

If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact co-chairs Julie Cowan ([jscowan@aol.com](mailto:jscowan@aol.com)) or Christina Fenrich ([cafenrich@gmail.com](mailto:cafenrich@gmail.com)).

## **Gold Star Sponsors**

ARA Diagnostic Imaging

ARC - Austin Regional Clinic

Ascension Seton

Austin Area OB/GYN & Fertility

Capitol Anesthesiology Association - a division of US Anesthesia Partners

Clinical Pathology Associates

Code 4 Emergency Services

Code 4 Emergency Services  
Travis County Medical Society

**Silver Star Sponsors**

Austin Anesthesiology Group - a division of North American Partners in Anesthesia

**Bronze Star Sponsors**

Dr. & Mrs. Mark & Patti Hernandez  
Austin Cancer Centers/Dr. Douglas Rivera  
Dr. & Mrs. Ernest & Sarah Butler  
TMA Insurance Trust

**Bright Star Sponsors**

EXP Realty - Jamie Armstrong  
Eye Institute of Austin  
Texas Fertility Center

**Rising Star Sponsors**

Austin Retina Associates  
Dr. Michael Romain – Austin Diagnostic Clinic

**In-kind Donors**

Austin Classical Guitar  
Barton Creek Country Club  
Bola Pizza  
Esther's Follies  
Fighting 69th Irish Whiskey  
Freytag's  
HEB  
Julie & Rob Cowan  
Christina & Arnie Fenrich  
French Connection Winery  
Inga & Richard Ruckman  
Home Depot  
David Yurman  
New Waterloo/South Congress Hotel  
Orvis  
Perla's  
Portico Place 12 Deer Valley  
Sikara & Co.  
Renee Stanley  
Trader Joe's  
Total Wine & More  
WineShop At Home by Dawn McDaniel  
Zach Theatre



AUSTIN AREA OBSTETRICS  
GYNECOLOGY & FERTILITY



CLINICAL  
PATHOLOGY  
ASSOCIATES




---

## 2022-23 Alliance Board Members Approved; Still in need of a Treasurer-Elect!

Congratulations to the new 2022-23 TCMA and TCMAF Executive Board! All members were unanimously approved at our February 15 General Membership Meeting.

The Treasurer-Elect position is still open. If anyone has considered becoming more involved in the Alliance, now is a great time. This position offers many opportunities to learn new skills while making lifelong friends. It is a two-year commitment, as you spend one year as Treasurer-Elect overseeing the TCMA budget and then the next year as Treasurer, overseeing the TCMAF budget. This great opportunity would keep you on the Alliance board during our Centennial year, 2024, ushering us into the next 100 years! If you would like to know more about the position or would like to nominate someone, please contact me at [cafenrich@gmail.com](mailto:cafenrich@gmail.com).



### Member Spotlight: Inga Ruckman .....

We are thrilled to have welcomed Inga Ruckman to the TCMA last year. She jumped right in and has even agreed, along with her husband Dr. Richard Ruckman, to host this year's Party With a Purpose at their home. Inga was born in Guatemala City and came to the US with her family when she was five years old. She graduated from Texas State



*Inga, her daughter, and husband Richard*

University and joined IBM where she was a sales executive with responsibility for driving analytics sales and managing large projects in North America for over 18 years. In 2016 Inga and her husband, who is an ophthalmologist, both retired to focus on medical mission trips to underserved communities in Belize, Fiji,

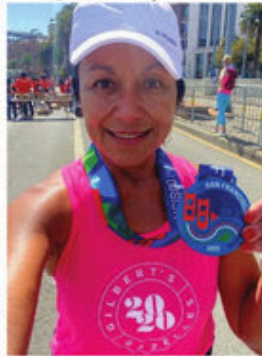
and Guatemala. Inga uses her IBM experience to support and manage volunteer data and leverages her bilingual skills to assist with patients. She has learned how to assist her husband with 70+ cataract surgeries per week. Inga has been blessed to witness the renewal of sight which most of us take for granted. She has great admiration for her husband and other physicians who provide ophthalmic care to those in need.

Inga has a 24-year-old daughter who, upon graduating from UT, moved to NYC to pursue her love for musical theatre. She is currently touring the US in the musical "Tootsie." The show will make a stop at the Bass Concert Hall in Austin, and Inga couldn't be more excited to see her daughter on stage.

Her family also includes a 17-year-old Shih-Tzu who has been blind for six years. She enjoys the irony that her ophthalmologist husband can often be

spotted walking the blind dog around the neighborhood!

Inga became a certified yoga instructor and shares these skills with mission volunteers, patients, and anyone who may find joy



in it. She enjoys running, and last fall she ran her first full marathon in San Francisco to celebrate her 55th birthday. Inga is currently pursuing a certification in project management which she hopes to leverage in some way to serve her community. Inga joined the TCMA when international mission work came to a halt

because of the pandemic and is excited to be a part of an organization that serves the local community. She says she has already met many kind, caring people and looks forward to new opportunities to become more involved in the Alliance.



## St. Louise House

What's new? - A volunteer opportunity at Saint Louise House! Beginning in March, Saint Louise House is looking to have volunteers help in their program offices at both locations. As a volunteer, you will help answer phones, greet residents when they come in, help with food bank and other deliveries, and help with some very basic data entry needed in the day-to-day operations. This will be an on-going 8 week commitment. Shifts are Monday - Friday during normal business hours.

Saint Louise House is looking for volunteers who:

- Are 18 or above
- Can commit to working the same shift at the same location every week for a minimum of 8 weeks
- Willing to complete a background check if you have not already done so

There are both daily morning and afternoon shifts at each of their two locations. Sound interesting to you? Or would like more details on the opportunity? If so, please contact Donna Clendennen, Volunteer & Community Engagement Manager at 512.302.0027 ext. 217 or [dclendennen@saintlouiseshouse.org](mailto:dclendennen@saintlouiseshouse.org).



## Membership renewals – target date is March 31st!

TCMA membership numbers continue to increase, but we do have some people who haven't yet renewed. We encourage these valued members to renew by March 31st. Go to the <https://www.tcmalliance.org/> website and look for the "Membership" tab. You'll find instructions on how to renew online, by mail or by phone. Or call the TMA Knowledge Center to speak to someone who can help at 800-880-7955.

Take advantage of the many benefits of TCMA membership. And please be sure to invite qualified friends and associates to join. We would love your support as we work together for a healthier Central Texas!

Lori Benold - VP Membership

---



## Outreach & Support

Congratulations to TCMA member Inga Ruckman, whose daughter, UT graduate Stephanie Renee Saylor, is an ensemble member of the national tour of the Broadway musical Tootsie!, which came to Bass Concert Hall in Austin this past week. [Here](#) is a Feb. 21 interview with the very talented Stephanie from Austin360.



AllMed is coming soon – you won't want to miss it! To learn more and to register, click here: [AllMED April 28-29 in Houston](#).



# Medical Affairs

Early voting for the March primaries has ended. Therefore, if you have not voted, please plan to do so Tuesday, March 1. You will need a photo ID. You may vote at any polling location in Travis County (if you live in Travis County and are registered to vote in Travis County). Polls will be open 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Since redistricting took place last fall, you might now be voting in a differently drawn and numbered district. If you'd like to see where your address lands you, visit [Texas redistricting map: Find your new districts | The Texas Tribune](#). A lot of other information is also included in this article. Scroll toward the bottom to enter your address and see maps of the new US Congress, state Senate, state House, and SBOE districts.

## **Continuing Dr. Jeffrey Hutchinson's Conversation on Health Disparities.....**

Following up on our February general membership meeting that featured Dr. Jeff Hutchinson is this article that the TMA included in its daily email on Friday, Feb. 25. It continues the conversation about a need to focus on communities of color so that health disparities are recognized and addressed by the entire healthcare community. Learn more at [Texas' Black Physicians Lead Through Vaccine Education, Mentorship in Their Communities \(texmed.org\)](#)

Julie Cowan - VP Medical Affairs



## Book Group

**March 23** - *The Biggest Bluff* by Maria Konnikova.

**April 27** - *Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles

To join the Book Group, visit [tcmalliance.org](http://tcmalliance.org) and click on the Book Review tab, under News & Events.



4300 North Lamar Boulevard Austin, TX 78756

512-206-1270

[www.tcmalliance.org](http://www.tcmalliance.org) 

You've received this email because you are a subscriber of [this site](#).

If you feel you received it by mistake or wish to unsubscribe, please [click here](#).