



BritClub News

Vol 20, Issue 8



COMING EVENTS

SBC BOARD MEETING

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 12th at 6:15 pm, it will be a virtual meeting.

All members will receive emailed invitations to the events in due time. Please look out for them in your inbox and be sure to add "Sarasota British Club" to your safe senders list.

Dear members: the SBC Board has decided to put on hold all events for the rest of this year. We are still hoping we can get together as soon as it is safe for us to do so.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER, AUGUST 2020

Greetings

If you have not tried the “senior hours” at Costco, mornings from 9 – 10 am, I encourage you to try it. We love the lack of crowds and we are in and out in 15 minutes with our rotisserie chicken and groceries to last 7 – 10 days. Costco have the social distancing worked out and masks are obligatory.

I have been wrestling with a ‘bad back’ for a couple of years, and finally relented and went to a neurosurgeon, who diagnosed ‘facet arthropathy’.

I have been to a couple of treatments at an outpatient surgery center and I mention this because I

have found access to the specialists and the surgery center to be speedy and safe during the Covid outbreak.

If you have been putting off a visit to the doctor, or elective surgery, I encourage you to make the effort – it is worth it!

We are midway through the last season of Breaking Bad and are constantly amazed at how little we remember from the first time we watched. If you have seen it before, it is worth a second look. I have added Yellowstone to the list below, a well-crafted series available on Netflix DVD, in which Kevin Costner is the patriarch of a large ranch in Montana. Lots of spectacular scenery.

Many thanks to those who have responded with feedback and encouragement to my weekly email. A reminder to PLEASE let me know if you have any items of interest. Also, if you have TV shows or movies that you have enjoyed, please let me share them with your fellow members.

Paul Wilkinson



BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Précis of the July's Board Meeting

The Treasurer's Report showed a Closing Balance of \$3,665.76 on June 30th, 2020.

Our present total membership is 130.

Future event ideas such as a Cooking Demonstration; Social Night; Movie Night and Bingo are still being considered for when our lives return to normal.

The Sarasota British Club is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year!



RECENT EVENTS

Book Club Meeting

Eight members met at Philippi Park on Saturday to discuss the Book Club choice of 'A Flash of Green' by Sarasota writer John D MacDonald.

Over coffee and pastries, the group discussed how the novel, while written in 1961, addressed issues which are still relevant today. MacDonald wove a tale around battle between developers and residents trying to save their corner of unspoiled Florida (sound familiar?). The book sparked a wide-ranging discussion about Sarasota, Florida, and of course, Covid 19.

We will be choosing a title for our next book over the next few days, and any members interested in joining should reach out to Mary Thompson at drmaryjthompson@gmail.com



MEDIA MATTERS

TV Show	Platform	Recommended by	Comments
Breaking Bad	Netflix	Paul and Diana	Classic Noir series, in which a high school chemistry teacher turns into a Drug Baron
Defending Jacob	Apple TV	Christine Green	Crime drama
Confession	BritBox	Christine Green	Crime drama
The Mill	Amazon Prime	Christine Green	Period drama
Suspects	Acorn	Peter and Olga	British Crime show
Line of Duty	Acorn	Paul and Diana	British Crime show
The Last Czars	Netflix	David Welch	Docudrama
Marvelous	Acorn	Ron Platt	Heartwarming British drama starring Toby Jones
Golden Years	Amazon Prime	Paul and Diana	DON'T MISS - retired Brits decide to top up their cash by robbing banks
Murder City	Amazon Prime	Peter and Olga	British Crime show
World's Fastest Indian	Netflix DVD	The Bigdens	Possibly Anthony Hopkins best role. Also available for rent on Amazon
The Sapphires	Netflix	The Bigdens	a real-life Australian aborigine singing group and their bumpy career
Closed Circuit	Netflix DVD	Paul and Diana	British spy thriller
The Nest	Acorn	Paul and Diana	Clever series set in and around Glasgow, wealthy couple engage teen to be the surrogate mother of their child...
Thirteen	Acorn	Paul and Diana	DON'T MISS this drama about a girl returning to her family after a 13 year abduction
The Last Kingdom	Netflix	Paul and Diana	Moderately entertaining tale of Saxons and Danes in the Dark Ages. BBC production went to great lengths
Yellowstone	Netflix DVD	Paul and Diana	Adult modern western set in Montana. Kevin Costner stars as patriarch of a ranch with more problems than you can imagine
Manhunt	Acorn	Peter and Olga	Martin Clunes is a dogged detective in this true story.
And then there were none	Acorn	Peter and Olga	BBC adaptation of Agatha Christie novel

COMMUNITY BOARD

From Paul and Maggie Cassidy:

Letters to London Times

Date: 3 July 1928

Subject: Police and Chewing Gum

From Millicent, Duchess of Sutherland

Dear Sir,

If I were to begin a letter on the subjects of the enforcements and non-enforcements on the actions of the London police, my pen might burn the paper. I will restrict myself to chewing gum!

Why in heaven's name are our police forbidden to chew gum? The steady effect on the nerves, the calming of tiredness, the greater efficiency provided by chewing gum is a question of common knowledge. I have proved this on long motor runs and exhausting journeys. I encourage my chauffeur to chew gum: he is always fresher at the end of a long excursion than if he smoked cigarettes. Think of the hours a policeman is standing on his beat.

This perpetual interference in England in minor details with the liberty of the subject, whether he be prince or policeman, seems pretty absurd abroad. The English people are indeed strong in their submission, but whenever I come over, I find them tiresome in their complaints about it. Please give the Metropolitan policeman back his chewing gun, and merely ask him to be careful where he emits it.

From PFC – below is the note that we must assume was added at the end of the Her Grace's letter by the Times Editor!

[Her Grace's concern with the spot where chewing gum could be emitted shows she was resident on the Continent and not in the United States. There, as Bertie Wooster had recently observed, policemen park their gum against a rainy day].

Date: 27th April 1910

Re: Trespassing in Aeroplanes – in 1910

From: Mr. H. B. Devey

Sir,

Moto-cars are bad enough, but they do not come into one's house or garden. With aeroplanes total strangers may drop in, through the roof, for a little chat at any time. I fear the law cannot protect one against such intrusion. If aviation becomes popular, I shall have spikes, with long strong prongs, fixed on the chimneys of my house, and the word 'Danger' painted in large red letters on a flat part of the roof. If any flying machines come down in my garden, I shall send for the police to remove the occupants, whom I shall sue afterwards for any damage to my trees or shrubs.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant

H. B. DEVEY

And then, a reply from a **Kings Counsel (Brit Club readers will have to excuse the KC's Latin references!)**

From Mr Henry A. De Colyar, KC 30th April 1910

Sir,

According to a dictum of Lord Ellenborough, in 'Pickering v. Rudd' (1815, 4 Camp., at p. 221), passing over another's land in a balloon is not a trespass. This dictum, which is difficult to reconcile with the well-known legal maxim '*cujus est so/um est quoque usque ad altum*', was, however, approved of, in the Indian case of 'Bagrum v. Khettranath Karformah (1869, 3 Bengal L. R., O.J.C., p. 43) by Mr Justice Norman, who expressed himself as follows:

'To interfere with the column of air superincumbent upon land is not a trespass. Lord Ellenborough justly ridicules the notion that travellers in a balloon could be deemed trespassers on the property of those over whose land the balloon might pass.

I am yours faithfully,

HENRY A. DE COLYAR

What is the most British gag ever?

A man starts a new job at the zoo and is given three tasks to start with. First is to clear the exotic fishpond of weeds. As he does this, a huge fish jumps out and bites him. To show the others who is boss he beats it to death with a spade. Realizing his employer won't be best pleased, he disposes of the fish by feeding it to the lions, since lions will eat anything.

Moving on to the second job of clearing out the Chimp house, he is attacked by the chimps that pelt him with coconuts. He swipes at two chimps with a spade, killing them both.

What can he do? Feed them to the lions, he says to himself, because lions eat anything. He hurls the corpses into the lion enclosure.

He moves on to the last job, which is to collect honey from the South American Bees. As soon as he starts, he is attacked by the bees. He grabs the spade and smashes the bees to a pulp. By now he knows what to do and throws them in with the lions.

Later that day a new lion arrives at the zoo. He wanders up to another lion and says, "What's the food like here?" The old lion says: "Absolutely brilliant.

Today we had fish and chimps with mushy bees."

From Paul Wilkinson:

The Laws of Life

1. **Law of Mechanical Repair** - After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee.

2. **Law of Gravity** - Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.

3. **Law of Probability** - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.

4. **Law of Random Numbers** - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal; someone always answers.

5. **Variation Law** - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now

6. **Law of the Bath** - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone will ring.

7. Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know INCREASES dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.

8. Law of the Result - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, IT WILL!!!

9. Law of Biomechanics - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.

10. Law of the Theater & Hockey Arena - At any event, the people whose seats are furthest from the aisle, always arrive last. They are the ones who will leave their seats several times to go for food, beer, or the toilet and who leave early before the end of the performance or the game is over. The folks in the aisle seats come early, never move once, have long gangly legs or big bellies and stay to the bitter end of the performance. The aisle people also are very surly folk.

11. The Coffee Law - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.

12. Murphy's Law of Lockers - If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.

13. Law of Physical Surfaces - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.

14. Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible IF you don't know what you are talking about.

15. Law of Physical Appearance - If the clothes fit, they're ugly.

16. Law of Public Speaking -- A CLOSED MOUTH GATHERS NO FEET!

17. Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it OR the store will stop selling it!

18. Doctors' Law - If you don't feel well, make an appointment to go to the doctor, by the time you get there, you'll feel better. But don't make an appointment and you'll stay sick.

From your editor:

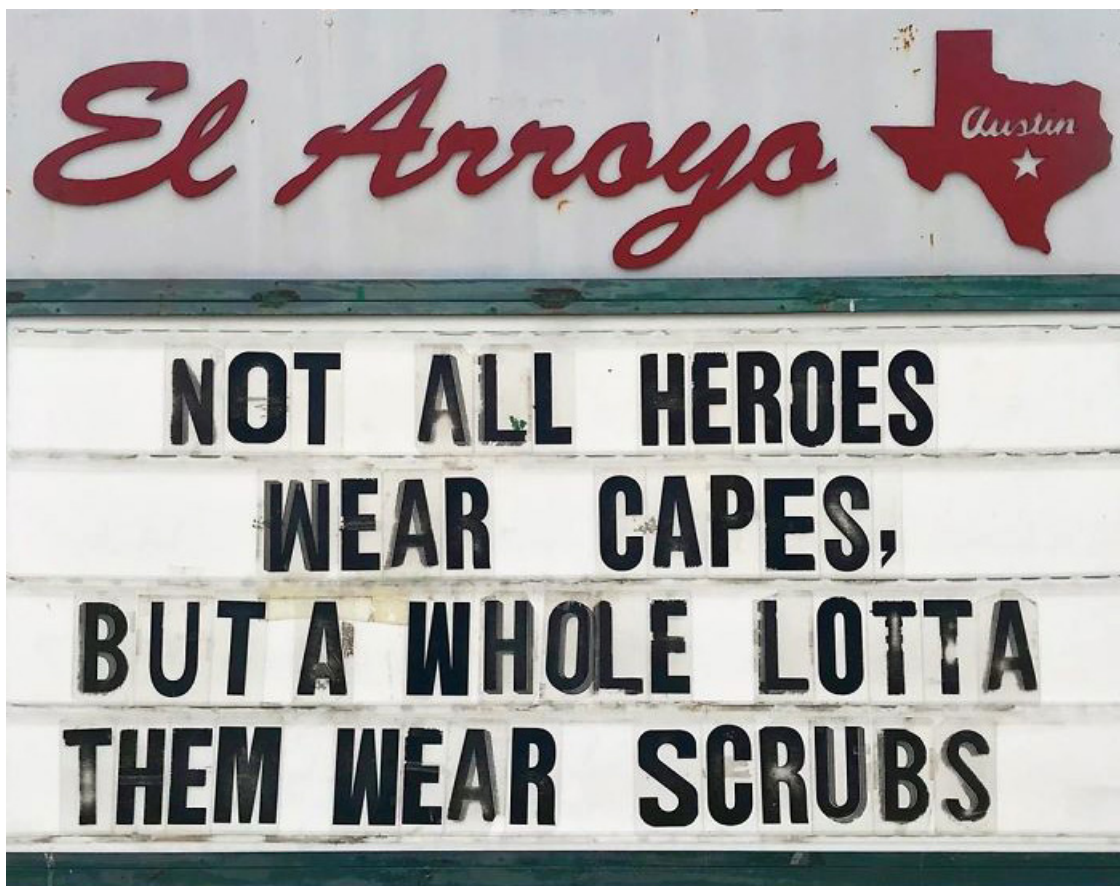
This Restaurant Is Winning ‘The Funny Sign Game

By Liucija Adomaite & Denis Tymulis; borepanda.com

A restaurant in Texas has made itself a household name by putting up hilarious signs again and again, day after day, year after year. The Austin-based establishment named El Arroyo has had its sign board since its opening in 1975, and 45 years later, it’s still out there cracking everyone up.

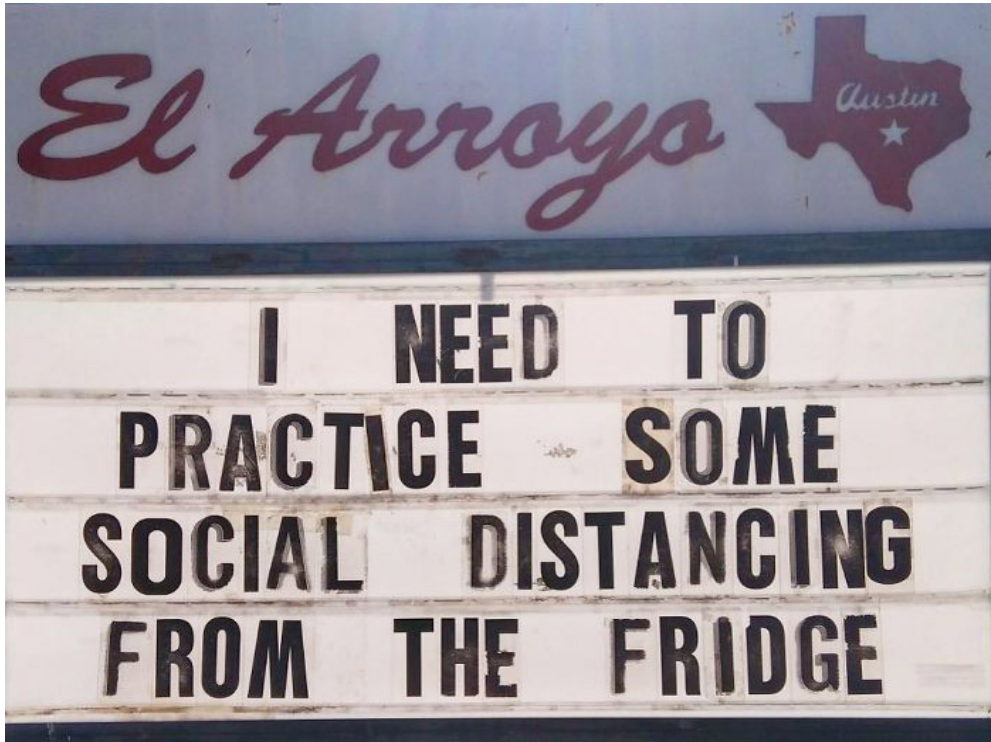
Paige Winstanley, co-owner of the restaurant, says about their signs: “In these times when much is unknown, El Arroyo finds comfort in bringing smiles and laughter to our community on a daily basis.”

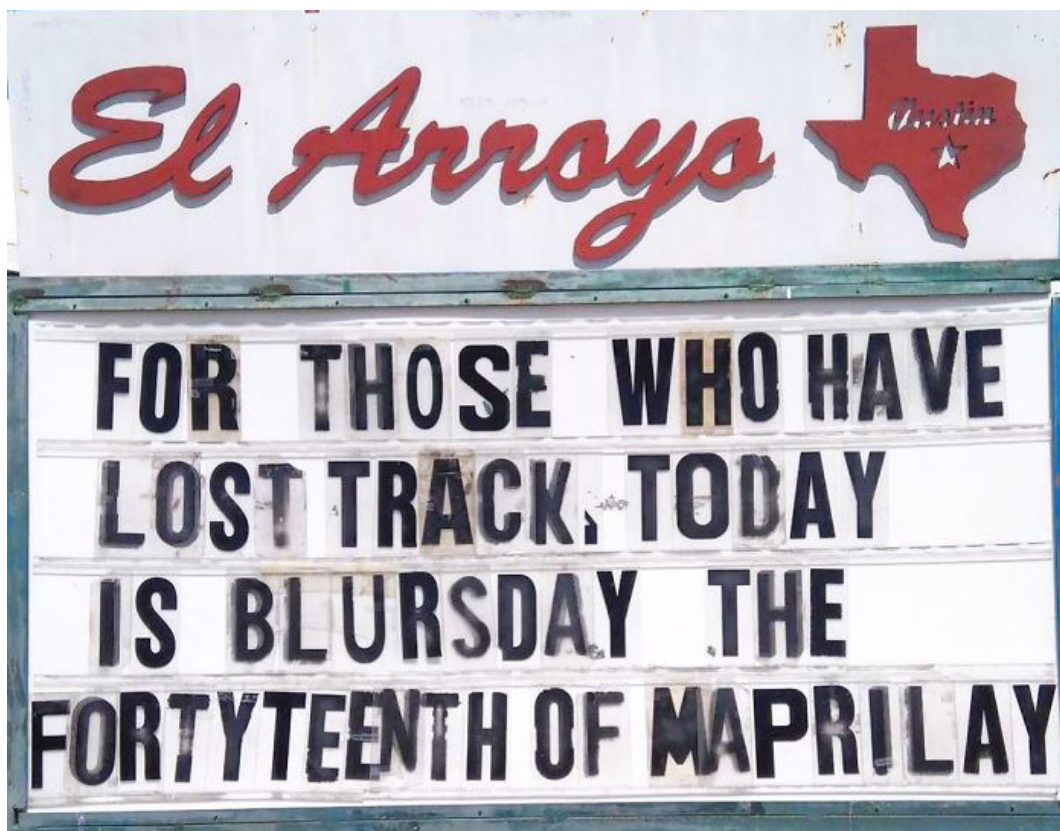
With 284K Instagram followers, the restaurant is surely doing everyone who’s rolling through 2020 one heck of a service.

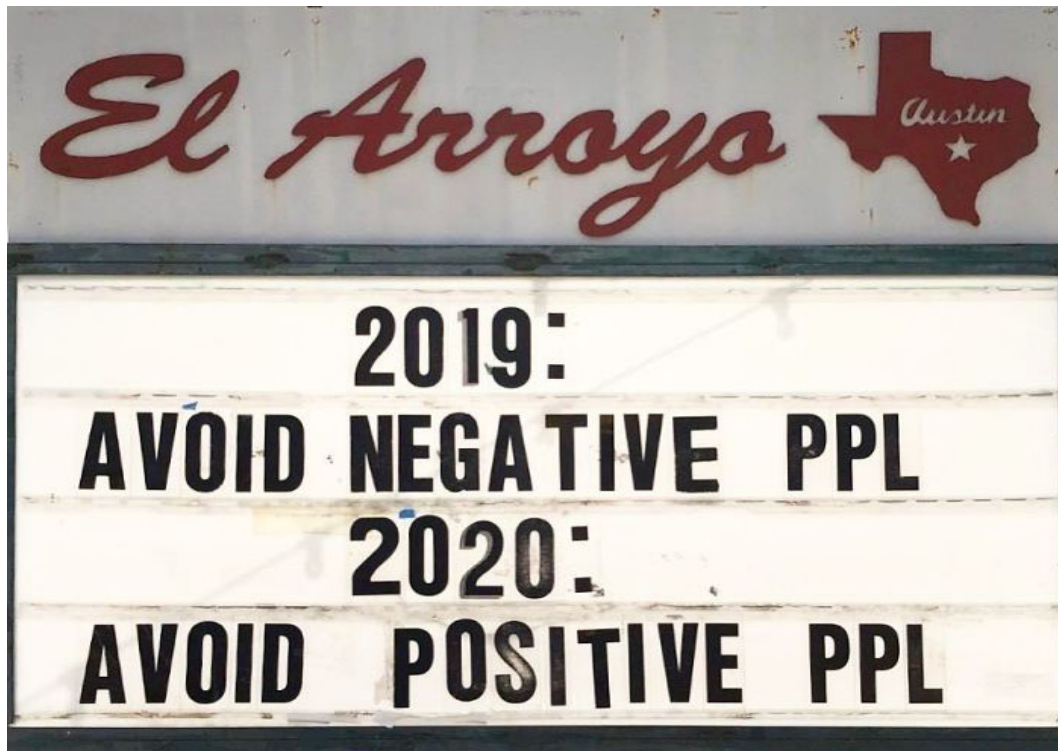












Thank you!

The editor wishes to thank all the club members who have contributed to this edition.



Eastern Black Swallowtail Butterfly ♀

© Olga Stokes 2020

Sarasota British Club name badges

Please obtain Club badges directly from ***Sarasota Trophy, 6601 Superior Ave, Sarasota, FL 34321. Phone 941 921 4339.***

- \$8 plus 56c tax for badge with magnet
- \$6 plus 42c tax for badge with pin (no magnet)

Badges can be collected in person (M – F 8.30 – 5pm, Sat 9am – noon) or shipped to your home for \$3.75.

SARASOTA BRITISH CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2020

President	Paul Wilkinson	240-432-2851
Vice President	Paul Cassidy	248-756-0010
Treasurer	Peter Stokes	941-536-4408
Secretary	Kevin Clayton	941-744-7863
Membership	David Welch	941-210-4455
Newsletter Editor	Olga Stokes	941-536-4408
Website Liaison	Mark Malkasian	941-445-2890
Director at Large 1	Christine Green	941-914-2463
Director at Large 2	Karen Clayton	941-592-8691
Director at Large 3	Vivienne Sivak	703-626-3562
Director Emeritus	Sandra Cherry	941-921-3162

Don't forget that Sarasota British Club is on Facebook. The Club's logo is the profile picture. Check out numerous photos from recent events.

Why not "friend" us for another way of keeping in touch with the Club and its members; you can add your event photos to the wall.