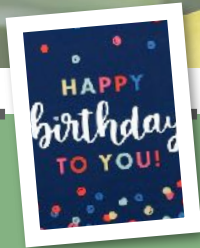


the BCRSP NEWSLETTER

M A R C H 2 0 2 4



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Friends,

Happy Springtime! The days are starting to warm, the trees are starting to bloom and the birds are beginning to sing! It's a wonderful time of the year.



I have a friend that reminds me of the brilliance of spring. Over the past 15 years he has gone to former Soviet block countries and adopted children when they "age out" of their foster care system at age 13. Can you imagine being on your own at the age of 13? He has given them a new spring-time on life.

We in Texas have done better, but we aren't exactly a shining star. Can you imagine being on your own at age 18 with neither a safety net nor a guiding light? That's where we now stand as a state. There are those, however, that see the flaws in our system and are dedicated to addressing those shortcomings. I am really looking forward to hearing how *Unlimited Potential* supports those that age out of foster care and guides them into a successful adult life.

Please join me on the March 20th to hear this most informative presentation.

Better Together!
Danny

- 01 - Deborah Fry
- 02 - Cindy Koebernick, Ellen Latta
- 07 - Karen DeWitt
- 08 - Charles Rowe
- 10 - Sandy Hazlewood
- 11 - Karen Thornton
- 15 - Carolyn Schroeder
- 16 - Leslie Jones, Mary Ann Thompson
- 17 - Barry Davis, Lois Gray, Max Thompson
- 19 - Nancy Beard
- 21 - Jeane McGown, Betty Munion
- 22 - Pat Wilson
- 23 - Cynthia Sampson
- 24 - Diana DeFrancesco
- 26 - Ila Magee
- 28 - Elaine Adams, Marion Jones
- 29 - Janet Quiram
- Gayle Patranella

**Brazos County Retired School Personnel
March 20, 2024
11:30 a.m. First Baptist Church**

“Better Together”

AGENDA

- **Welcome!**
Danny Stribling
- **Invocation and Pledges**
Betty Munion

•••••**Lunch**•••••

Program:

“Unlimited Potential”
Jacque Flagg

- **New Business/Committee Reports**
 - **Door Prizes and Birthdays**
Lynn Blinka
- **Happy Dollars and Joke of the Day**

*Join Us at our next meeting on
April 24, 2024*



Membership Report



According to TRTA we ended the 23-24 membership year at 355 members strong! This is a great number and we are so happy so many of you have joined and are supporting us as we continue to work for the retired school personnel in the state of Texas.

It's time to think about **rejoining** for the 24-25 year. You can use the membership form found at the end of this newsletter and mail your check to the address indicated.

Better yet, you can attend our April or May meetings and rejoin in person.

Hope that all of you will consider rejoining as we need all hands on deck for the next legislative year!!



BCRSP General Meeting Minutes

BCRSP February Meeting February 28, 2024

President Danny Stribling called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Chaplain Betty Munion offered the invocation and led members in the United States and Texas pledges. Danny acknowledged our two visitors and introduced them to the group.

Program- Mildred Davis, Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Brazos Valley African American Museum and BCRSP past president, presented an interesting and informative program about this “hidden jewel” in Brazos County. She shared the history of how the museum began as a vision of Mel Pruitt, long time Bryan educator. Information about the historical significance of the building, its design and the exhibits and activities that it provides the community were shared.

Legislative- Danny Stribling reminded members to vote in the current primaries.

Membership- A total of 349 members were reported. 1st VP Frances Maloney reminded us that we can now renew our membership for 2024-25 and had new membership forms available.

Children’s Book Project- Sandra Petty encouraged members to donate either books or monies toward the project.

Door Prizes- Danny Stribling awarded door prizes to several lucky members.

Other Business -

March’s meeting will be presented by Jacque Flagg, Board Member of Unlimited Potential, an organization that helps children who have aged out of the foster care system.

President Danny Stribling adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Submitted,
Sharon Ogden, substituting for Betty Rabe, BCRSP Secretary

Our monthly Treasurer's report will be attached to the newsletter email that is sent to you each month from BCRSP.



Legislative Update - March 2024

PREPARING FOR THE SECOND TEXAS PRIMARY ELECTION

The election date for the second Texas Primary Election (run-off) is Tuesday, May 28. Early voting will begin on Monday, May 20 and run through Friday, May 24. The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 5.

In TRTA District 6 first primary voting produced the following results:

No state senator with a constituency in TRTA D6 faced an election cycle this time. Therefore, D6 will continue to be represented by Brandon Creighton, Lois Kolkhorst, Robert Nichols, and Charles Schwertner.

HOUSE RESULTS:

HD 3)	Cecil Bell, Jr. (R)	unopposed in Nov.
HD 9)	Trent Ashby (R)	unopposed in Nov.
HD 12)	Trey Wharton (R)	May run-off to face Ben Bius (R)
	Dee Howard Mullins (D)	winner to face Mullins in Nov.
HD 13)	Angelia Orr (R)	to face
	Albert Hunter (D)	in Nov.
HD 14)	Paul Dyson (R)	to face
	Fred Medina (D)	in Nov.
HD 15)	Steve Toth (R)	unopposed in Nov.
HD 16)	Will Metcalf (R)	to face
	Mike Midler (D)	in Nov.
HD 17)	Stan Gerdes (R)	to face
	Desiree Venable (D)	in Nov.
HD 18)	Janis Holt (R)	unopposed in Nov.
HD 85)	Stan Kitzman (R)	unopposed in Nov.

Dr. James Warner, District 6 and BCRSP Legislative Chair



Meeting Reservations Information

Meal Price: \$15.00 (tip not included)

For Reservations:

Email Suzanne Phelps: snphelps1946@gmail.com

no later than 3:00 on the Friday before the monthly meeting.

Please bring the correct change or a check made out to BCRSP if at all possible. Tips are not included in the meal price so please plan to leave a gratuity on your table. Thanks so much!

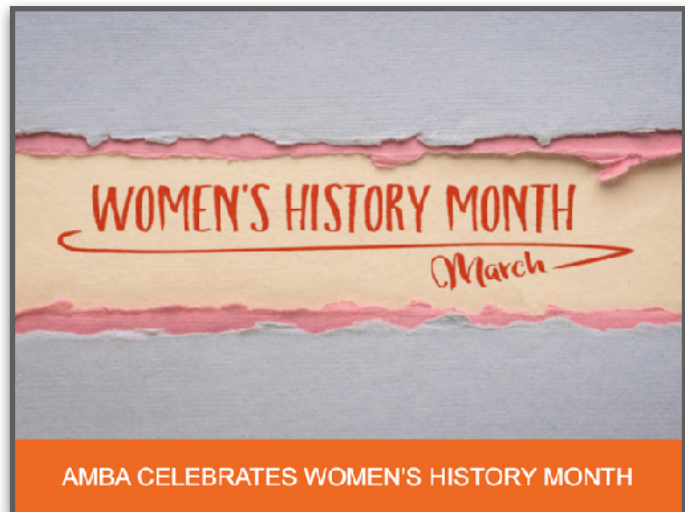


The Nomination Committee needs to fill one more position for 2024-26! If you would like to nominate a member to serve or if you would like to serve as 2nd Vice-President of BCRSP, please see Sheila Fields, chairperson or contact her at atredrobin@msn.com.

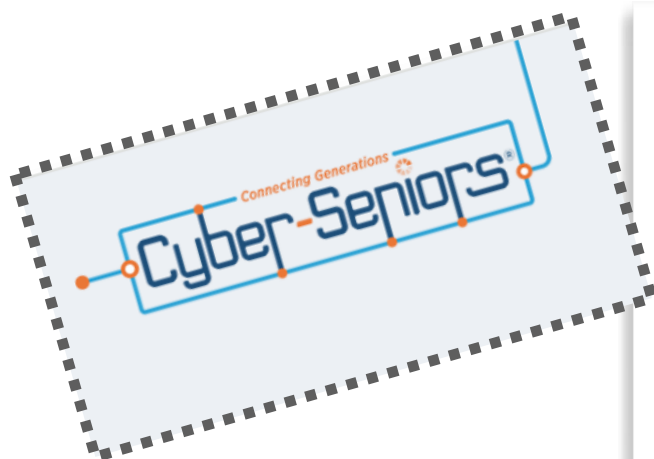
Scholarship funding is our emphasis for March, April and May. Please consider donating to our fund which will award 4 scholarships to local seniors pursuing a teaching career after graduation. Your donations can be placed in the jars found at each table during our luncheon. Thank you so much for your support!!



TRTA Member Benefits



March is Women's History Month, a time to honor women's contributions to American history. From iconic figures in the early days of the country like Betsy Ross to more modern examples like Rosa Parks, Amelia Earhart, and others, AMBA celebrates how women play an essential role in moving us all forward. The importance women have in educating our children cannot be underestimated. In 2021, with just under 4,000,000 teachers in the U.S., nearly 75% of them were women! Whether still working or retired, AMBA applauds all the hard work and amazing accomplishments women have achieved in educating future generations.



Technology Update

Need technology training? Want help understanding how NOT to get scammed? Try this website, created for older adults which offers a variety of technology help and even has a number you can call for assistance. There are daily webinars offered on various topics and this site is a good resource to help you "up" your technology game!!

<https://cyberseniors.org/>

